



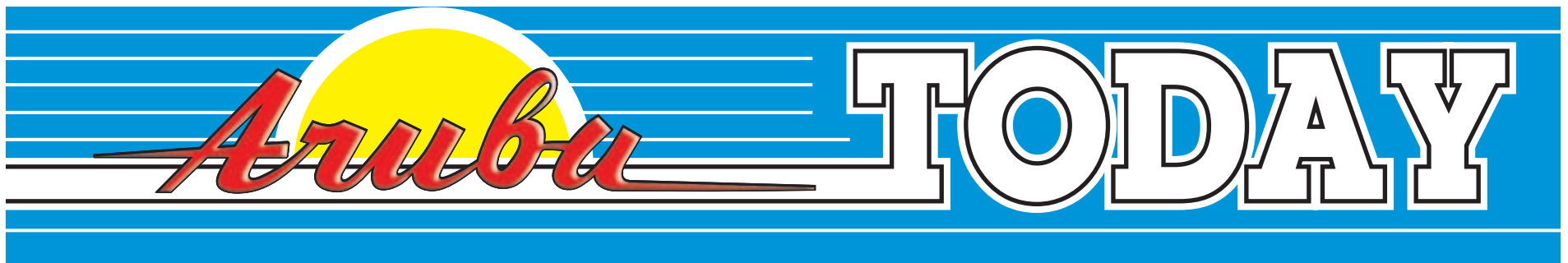
## SUPREME COURT WON'T HEAR APPEAL ON ABORTION BAN

Page 4



## SURVIVORS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF CONCORDIA WRECK

Page 9



On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Tuesday, January 14, 2014



New Jersey Assemblymen John S. Wisniewski, center, D-Sayreville, N.J., Lou D. Greenwald, left, D-Vorhees, N.J., and incoming Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto, D-Secaucus, N.J., address the media Monday, Jan. 13, 2014, in Trenton, N.J. Greenwald, says an investigation into massive local traffic jams that has ensnared Gov. Chris Christie's administration has grown into an abuse of power probe.

(AP Photo/Mel Evans)

# Christie Faces Inquiry Into Sandy Relief Money

**MARC SANTORA**  
© 2014 New York Times

Federal investigators have ordered an investigation into whether Gov. Chris Christie's administration improperly spent millions of dollars of relief meant to encourage tourists to visit New Jersey after the

devastation of Hurricane Sandy.

The probe comes as Christie is struggling with the most difficult crisis of his political career after it was revealed that people in his administration schemed to close lanes onto the George Washington Bridge

as political punishment for the Democratic mayor of Fort Lee. On Monday, New Jersey Democrats announced a new committee to investigate the closings. This is not the first time Christie has come under criticism for the Hurricane Sandy funds: Many of the tele-

vision advertisements used in the campaign, called "Stronger Than the Storm," prominently featured the governor and his family, which drew complaints from Democrats around the state who said it was more focused on promoting Christie than the Jersey

Shore.

The commercials were paid for with money from a federal disaster relief package New Jersey received that included \$25 million for a media campaign.

Continued on page 3



## Cuban students open rare study program to Miami

**MIAMI (AP)** — A group of students from Cuba is opening the communist country's first academic trip in more than five decades to the largest public college in Miami, unofficial capital of the exile community. Fifteen Cuban students have arrived and two more are en route for a semester of study at Miami Dade College, the institution's provost, Rolando Montoya, announced Monday. The students range from 18 to 37 and will be taking courses in sociology, computing, business and other

study.

Two Cuban medical students traveled to the U.S. in 2010 to speak at universities about life on the island. And Cuban graduate students and professors have visited occasionally to teach or attend conferences. But few could recall any group of undergraduate students spending a semester in the U.S.

"I'm sure there's been some, but I think they have been an exceptional, one-shot deal," said Ted Henken, a professor at Baruch College in New York and president of the Associa-

cent from October 2012 to July 2013 compared to the same period a year before, according to the U.S. State Department.

"I think this is consistent with that trend in which students are looking outside the country more than before," he said.

Among the arriving students are musicians, artists, attorneys and others; more than half are women. They were granted J-1 visas traditionally given to visiting students, teachers, doctors and others. Few such visas had been granted prior to the change in Cuba travel



Students from Cuba, center, meet their new professors after a news conference, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014, announcing their arrival at Miami Dade College in Miami. Fifteen Cuban students have arrived and two more are en route for a semester of study. The students range from 18 to 37 and will be taking courses in sociology, computing, business and other subjects.

(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

subjects. The visit marks the first time Miami Dade College will provide classes to students still living in Cuba, Montoya said. The college has long been one of the first stops for Cuban and other immigrants in Miami seeking an education and to establish themselves in the U.S. "We always say we are a single people, if we are over there or here," Montoya said. "We are here with our arms wide open."

U.S. students are permitted to travel to Cuba for academic study under the "people-to-people" exchanges re-established by the Obama administration in 2011. But the exchanges are largely one-sided, with Cuban students rarely traveling to the U.S. for similar

tion for the Study of the Cuban Economy.

Miami is home to the largest population of Cubans outside the island. In the past many have resisted travel by musicians, artists and others still living on the island. But strong opposition has declined as younger generations and new arrivals have been more open to a relationship with Cubans on the island. Montoya said changes in Cuba's travel laws made the visit possible: Thousands of Cubans have recently been permitted to travel after the government eliminated the much-detested "white card" needed to leave. The number of Cubans receiving U.S. nonimmigrant visas jumped by 82 per-

cent from October 2012 to July 2013 compared to the same period a year before, according to the U.S. State Department.

Figures for 2013 weren't available. The Foundation for Human Rights in Cuba approached Miami Dade College about hosting the students, Montoya said. That non-profit organization works to promote democracy and human rights on the island. They offered to recruit the students, while Miami Dade College helped with visas and enrollment paperwork.

The foundation is paying the student's tuition, housing, meal and transportation costs, Montoya said. A message left at the foundation by The Associated Press was not immediately returned. □

## AROUND THE WORLD

### Ouster of Colombian mayor ratified

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)** — Colombia's inspector general has ratified his ouster of Bogota Mayor Gustavo Petro from the nation's second most important political post. Inspector General Alejandro Ordonez also confirmed his earlier order that Petro be banned from elected office for 15 years. The statement was posted Monday on Ordonez's official website. It was not immediately clear who would take over the job of running the Colombian capital of 8 million people. Petro has no further recourse of appeal. Ordonez announced Petro's destitution in December. □

### Sri Lanka frees 52 Indian fishermen

**COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)** — Sri Lankan authorities say they have freed 52 Indian fishermen detained for poaching following India's release of 20 Sri Lankan fishermen, in a sign of easing tensions between the two countries over the contentious issue. Sri Lankan Fisheries Ministry spokesman Narendra Rajapakse says the fishermen and their boats were released Monday after India freed the Sri Lankans held in the southern state of Tamil Nadu. The foreign ministry said Fisheries Minister Rajitha Senarathne will visit India on Wednesday for further talks on fishermen held by the two countries. □

### Blast in illegal gambling hall kills 14

**BEIJING (AP)** — An explosion Monday at an illegal gambling hall in a village in southern China killed 14 people and injured seven others, state media report. The blast struck at around 2:30 p.m. (0630 GMT) outside the city of Kaili in the poor southern province of Guizhou, the official People's Daily newspaper and Xinhua News Agency said. While the cause of the explosion officially remains under investigation, police believe it was set deliberately and are treating the incident as a crime, People's Daily said. Gambling is illegal in China and is mostly connected to organized crime. □

### Shootout in Kashmir kills 2 militants

**SRINAGAR, India (AP)** — Indian law enforcement officers killed two suspected militants in a gunbattle Monday in the Indian-controlled portion of the disputed Kashmir region, police said. Indian police and paramilitary forces also trapped a third suspected rebel in the shootout in Sopore, about 55 kilometers (34 miles) northwest of Srinagar, the main city in Indian-ruled Kashmir, area Police Chief Qayoom said. The clash erupted less than a week after a police officer was killed in another gunbattle in Sopore. Some 68,000 people have been killed over the disputed region since 1989. □

### 12 killed following officer's murder

**BRASILIA, Brazil (AP)** — Police say at least 12 young men were killed overnight in an impoverished area of a Brazilian university town known as a hub for the local tech industry. The mostly drive-by shootings happened over four hours late Sunday and early Monday on the outskirts of Campinas, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) northwest of Brazil's biggest city Sao Paulo. The wave of slayings occurred after an off-duty police officer in the area was killed while fighting armed robbers who robbers had targeted him. A group of people angered by the killings attacked buses in the area. □



## Another house Democrat set to retire soon

ASHLEY PARKER

© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., announced Monday that he will retire at the end of his term, after 40 years in Congress.

Miller, who was first elected in 1974, is a trusted confidant of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, of California, and he is a dedicated supporter of liberal and labor causes. But Miller - one of the few remaining "Watergate Babies," who were elected in the first class after President Richard Nixon's resignation - has also earned a reputation for his willingness to work with his Republican colleagues.

His retirement is unlikely to create an opening for Republicans in 2014.

The seat, which includes portions of Contra Costa County, is solidly Democratic, and Miller won reelection in 2012 with 69.1 percent of the vote.

"I'm proud of what I have been able to accomplish on behalf of children, working people and the environment, in my district and for our country, especially passage of national health care reform," Miller said in a statement Monday.

"Now, I look forward to one last year in Congress fighting the good fight and then working in new venues on the issues that have inspired me, and I will not seek re-election this fall. What a wonderful experience this has been."

Miller added that he has a "tall agenda" remaining as he serves out the rest of his 20th term.

He hopes to extend long-term unemployment insurance benefits; raise the minimum wage to at least \$10.10 an hour by 2016; further implement President Barack Obama's signature health care law, and push through a broad overhaul of immigration laws - all key Democratic goals for the coming session. □

## After 5 days, W. Virginia water crisis nears end

BRENDAN FARRINGTON

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, West Virginia

(AP) — Officials on Monday partially lifted a ban on tap water that was tainted by a chemical spill, while some in West Virginia had

curred and whether the company, Freedom Industries, took too long to let officials know about the problem that affected about 300,000 people and effectively shut down the state capital.

testing continued Monday. "We see light at the end of the tunnel," Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin told reporters. He announced Monday that the ban was lifted on parts of the region.

About 6,000 to 10,000 cus-

American Water President Jeff McIntyre said.

Residents had been urged not to use the water for anything but flushing toilets. Some people left town to take a shower and find an open restaurant. Water distribution centers have handed out bottled water. So far, 10 people exposed to the contaminated water were admitted to the hospital, and none was in serious condition, Health and Human Resources Secretary Karen Bowling said.

About 7,500 gallons (28,400 liters) of the chemical is believed to have leaked from a tank and containment area, and some of it got into the Elk River and the water treatment plant downstream. The chemical quickly dissolves in water, so people have had to wait for it to pass through the water system or be diluted to the point where the water is again safe.

The chemical, even in its most concentrated form, isn't deadly. However, people were told they shouldn't even wash their clothes in affected water, as the compound can cause symptoms ranging from skin irritation and rashes to vomiting and diarrhea. □



Workers inspect an area outside a retaining wall around storage tanks where a chemical leaked into the Elk River at Freedom Industries storage facility in Charleston, Va., Monday, Jan. 13, 2014. The ban on tap water for parts of West Virginia was lifted on Monday, ending a crisis for a fraction of the 300,000 people who were told not to drink, wash or cook with water after the chemical spill tainted the water supply.

(AP Photo/Steve Helber)

to wash, cook and brush their teeth with bottled water for a fifth straight day. Questions lingered about how and why the leak oc-

Tests over the weekend showed that levels of the chemical used in coal processing were consistently below a toxic threshold, but

tomers were allowed to use the water again Monday, but it could still be days before the entire water system was cleared, West Virginia

## Christie faces inquiry into Sandy relief money

Continued from page 3

The audit by the Department of Housing and Urban Development will look into how the contract was awarded.

An investigation by The Asbury Park Press last year found that the public relations firm that won the contract, MWW Group, based in East Rutherford, charged \$2 million more than a competitor that submitted a comparable proposal.

A key difference in the bids, the newspaper reported, was that the MWW Group proposal prominently featured the governor in the ads.

After the reports in The Asbury Park Press, Rep. Frank Pallone, a Democrat and

longtime critic of Christie, sent a letter to HUD asking the agency to looking into the matter.

"While promoting tourism at the Jersey Shore in the wake of Hurricane Sandy is certainly a worthy endeavor, recent reports have led me to believe that the state has irresponsibly misappropriated funding allocated by Congress from the Sandy aid package and taken advantage of this waiver for political purposes," Pallone wrote in August.

On Monday, his office announced that it received word from the federal agency that it would open an investigation into the matter.

"I commend the HUD Office of the Inspector General for investigating whether the state properly utilized

taxpayer funds for this marketing campaign," Pallone said in a statement.

Christie's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The inquiry comes as the administration is also under investigation by the U.S. attorney in New Jersey for its role in the lane closings on the George Washington Bridge in September, which has caused a big commotion in New Jersey.

New Jersey lawmakers have also vowed to continue with their own review and are expected to issue more subpoenas to top officials in the Christie administration.

Assemblyman John Wisniewski, a Democrat who is leading the investigation in the legislature, said he expected to call on the

governor's former deputy chief of staff, Bridget Anne Kelly, and his two-time campaign manager and former choice for state Republican Party chairman, Bill Stepien, to testify.

Wisniewski announced Monday that he would lead "a newly formed special investigatory committee that will have subpoena power, utilize a special counsel and focus solely on investigating questions surrounding the decision to close access lanes to the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee."

"We have made great strides in finding out what actually happened here with this threat to public safety and abuse of power, but so many questions remain unanswered," he said in a statement. □



# Supreme Court won't hear Arizona appeal on abortion ban

ADAM LIPTAK

© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - The Supreme Court on Monday declined to hear an appeal from Arizona officials seeking to revive a state law that barred most abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. The justices offered no reasons for turning down the appeal, as is their custom.

The case concerned an Arizona law, enacted in 2012, that prohibits abortions, except in medical emergencies, when the fetus reaches 20 weeks gestation, dated from the woman's last menstrual period. The law's definition of medical emergency is narrow, encompassing conditions requiring immediate abortion to avert a pregnant woman's death or a "seri-

ous risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function."

The law's sponsors claimed fetuses can feel pain at 20 weeks, a contention that has been disputed by major medical groups.

In May, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, in San Francisco, ruled that the Arizona law was unconstitutional "under a long line of invariant Supreme Court precedents" starting with *Roe v. Wade* in 1973.

The core message of those decisions, the appeals court said, was that women have a constitutional right to end their pregnancies before the fetus is viable.

Gov. Janice K. Brewer of Arizona had signed the



People wait in line to enter the U.S. Supreme Court on the first day of January sessions in Washington, Jan. 13, 2014. The Supreme Court on Monday declined to hear an appeal from Arizona officials seeking to revive a state law that barred most abortions after 20 weeks of fetal gestation. (Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

bill into law in April 2012. On Monday, her spokesman, Andrew Wilder, said

she had "championed to make Arizona one of the most pro-life states in the nation" and that the law was "consistent with her proud and proven track record as the most pro-life governor in Arizona."

The Supreme Court's decision, Wilder added, "is wrong, and is a clear infringement on the authority of states to implement critical life-affirming laws." He said the governor would "keep her options on the table," but would not specify what those might be.

Arizona officials conceded that the law covered abortions before fetal viability, currently about 24 weeks as measured from a woman's last menstrual period. But they argued that the law did not amount to an outright ban, only to a permissible regulation, one they said was justified by the state's interest in preventing fetal pain and the increased risk to women as their pregnancies progress. The appeals court rejected both arguments.

Judge Andrew J. Kleinfeld concurred, saying that Supreme Court precedent required him to vote to strike down the law. But he questioned the constitutional significance of fetal viability, calling it "an odd rule, because viability changes as medicine changes." Since the *Roe* decision, viability has dropped from about 28 weeks, he said,

as doctors become able to save ever younger premature babies.

Kleinfeld added that the justifications offered for the Arizona law were insufficient.

"Were the statute limited to protecting fetuses from unnecessary infliction of excruciating pain before their death," Kleinfeld wrote, "Arizona might regulate abortions at or after 20 weeks by requiring anesthetization of the fetuses about to be killed, much as it requires anesthetization of prisoners prior to killing them when the death penalty is carried out."

"As for Arizona's claimed interest in the mother's health," he continued, "people are free to do many things risky to their health, such as surgery to improve their quality of life but unnecessary to preserve life."

Arizona is one of 12 states that have tried to ban most abortions at 20 weeks based on the theory of fetal pain. But the other 11 states have set the threshold at 20 weeks after fertilization, which is about two weeks later into a pregnancy than Arizona's but still earlier than fetal viability. Such laws have been stuck down in Georgia and Idaho but remain in effect in nine states where they have not been challenged in court including, most recently, Texas. □

## Discount Days

Tuesday & Wednesday - Limited Offer Check them out now!

### Carnival Specials

**D&W Black Forrest Turkey Smoked**  
per 100 gr

From 3.29 to **2.49**

**A&W Rootbeer**  
2 for ONLY

From 9.99 to **6.99**  
\*VOLD SAME FLAV ADJUST\*

**Grouper Fillet**  
per 100 gr

From 1.95 to **1.49**

**Chicken sate**  
per 500 gr

From 7.25 to **5.75**

**FREE Carnival T-shirt**  
with your Purchase of 125 awg or more!

www.lingandsons.com

lingandsons
 lingandsons

THE #1 SUPERMARKET IN ARUBA



# Justices voice doubts on Obama recess appointments

ADAM LIPTAK

© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - In an extended argument that contained large doses of history and practical politics, the Supreme Court on Monday seemed skeptical of the Obama administration's contention that it had acted properly in bypassing the Senate to appoint several officials during a break in the Senate's work.

Several justices seemed attracted to the relatively narrow argument that President Barack Obama had acted during a break in the Senate's work that was too brief to allow a recess appointment. Others spoke in favor of a much broader argument that would limit such appointments to recesses between



**C. Boyden Gray, the former White House counsel and ambassador, at his office in Washington, Jan. 8, 2014. Boyden is among the conservative lawyers urging the Supreme Court to severely constrain the Obama administration's ability to fill executive branch vacancies during a Senate recess.**

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

sessions of Congress.

Much of the argument concerned how to reconcile the text of the Constitution with more than a century of tradition. On

the one hand, as a federal appeals court in Washington ruled, the words of the Constitution can be read to allow a quite limited appointment power.

The constitutional provision at issue says that "the president shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate." The appeals court, leaning heavily on the phrase "the recess," ruled that appointments may be made only during the recesses that occur between the formal, numbered sessions of Congress. The court added that the vacancies must have arisen during that recess. Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli Jr., representing the Obama administration, said presidents of both parties have made many appointments during breaks in sessions of Congress. Justice Antonin Scalia responded that the text of the Constitution was more important than con-

trary practice.

The case, *National Labor Relations Board v. Noel Canning*, No. 12-1281, arose from a labor dispute. The labor board ruled against a bottling company, saying it had engaged in an unfair labor practice by refusing to enter into a collective bargaining agreement.

The company appealed, arguing that the labor board had been powerless to rule because a majority of its members had been appointed during a 20-day stretch when the Senate was convening every three days in pro forma sessions without conducting any business. Since the members of the board were not properly appointed, the company argued, its ruling was void. □

# Underwear bomber's 2009 guilty plea will stand

ED WHITE

Associated Press

**DETROIT (AP)** — An appeals court on Monday upheld the conviction and life sentence of a Nigerian man who pleaded guilty to trying to blow up a Detroit-bound airliner with a bomb in his underwear on Christmas 2009. Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab pleaded guilty on the second day of trial in 2011 and expressed much pride in his suicide mission on behalf of al-Qaida. Yet he still challenged a series of decisions by U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds, especially her refusal to order a mental health exam. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found nothing wrong with Edmunds' handling of the case. Abdulmutallab, now 27, trained in Yemen under Anwar al-Awlaki, a radical American-born cleric and one of the best-

known al-Qaida figures. Abdulmutallab wore the explosive in his underwear aboard Northwest Airlines Flight 253, which originated in Amsterdam with 281 passengers and a crew of 11 aboard.

"These actions show the deliberate, conscious, and complicated path Abdulmutallab chose to pursue in the name of martyrdom. ... The complexity behind Abdulmutallab's mission indicates the exact opposite of incompetence," Judge David McKeague wrote on behalf of a three-judge panel at the Cincinnati-based court.

Abdulmutallab's explosive caused a fire but didn't destroy the plane as it approached Detroit Metropolitan Airport. He was severely burned and made incriminating statements while being treated at a hospital.

Abdulmutallab said the statements should have been thrown out because he made them without a Miranda warning from federal agents. The appeals court, however, said he forfeited the right to challenge that issue by

failing to preserve it when he pleaded guilty.

Edmunds had refused to suppress the statements, noting there is an exception to the Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination when authorities believe an imminent

safety threat may exist. She also said they were voluntary.

Abdulmutallab, the European-educated son of a wealthy banker, is housed at a maximum security federal prison in Fremont County, Colorado. □

**AURA CASINO**

**LIVE POKER**

**LIVE ACTION GAMES**

**DAILY TOURNAMENTS AT 8PM**

**DAILY BINGO ON SUN-WED-FRI FOR ONLY \$6**

**WIN CASH PRIZES AND MORE AT 2PM**

**BENLO CIGARS**

Import & Export • We ship all over the world • Tel.: 586-3555

Located in the Arowak Garden, next to Salt & Pepper, Paparazzi and Tango Restaurant.

We are specialized in premium Cuban Cigars.

Opening hours: Mon. - Sat. 8:30am - 11:00pm

Sunday 9:00am - 11:00pm

Depending on purchase, we have discounts starting from 5% up to 20%.

With purchase of \$20 or more 1 FREE CIGAR

Bring this coupon for your free Cuban Cigar!

**Hold-Em and Omaha Pot Limit**

**SPORTS BOOK OPEN DAILY:**

Monday and Tuesday open from 11am - 11pm

Wednesday to Sunday open from 11am - 1am

**AURA CASINO**

TEN DOLLARS MATCH PLAY AT THE AURA CASINO LOCATED AT THE OCCIDENTAL GRAND ARUBA

**ALL SPORTS & ALL MAJOR TRACKS AVAILABLE**

Be There!

We are more pleased to have you!

**AURA Casino • J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 83**

**Occidental Casino Aruba**

Phone: 586-0705 ext: 322

E-mail: info@thecasinoaruba.com

**OCCIDENTAL GRAND**

ARUBA



# Iran nuke deal doesn't end debate over sanctions

**BRADLEY KLAPPER**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The weekend deal spelling out how Iran will roll back its nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief buttresses the Obama administration's argument Tehran may be prepared for a grand diplomatic compromise averting the potential for war. But it has done little to sway skeptical lawmakers determined to levy new sanctions against Iran.

With world powers and Iran set to start the clock on their six-month interim agreement Jan. 20, a parallel showdown looms between President Barack Obama and Congress over legislative action each side says has serious implications for the chances of diplomatic success. Obama warns adding more sanctions could kill negotiations; legislators insist they're the only way to ensure Iran keeps its word. Much could depend on Tehran quickly making good on its commitments. "Now is not the time to impose new sanctions," Obama said Monday as he met with Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said the fact Iran's government was now implementing what has been agreed "demonstrates that at the very least, testing whether or not Iran is serious is the right thing to do."

The question of sanctions is essentially a tactical dis-

pute over the best way to achieve a shared goal: preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons and delivering an existential threat to Israel, while fundamentally reshaping the power dynamics of the Middle East. But for the Obama administration, the pressure from Congress has proven a constant headache at precisely the moment Iran's moderate-sounding President Hassan Rouhani is offering unprecedented flexibility in talks. The administration reached a milestone in its strategy Sunday. The U.S. and its five negotiating partners — Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia — secured a deal with Iran articulating how the Islamic republic will scale back its uranium enrichment program, halt progress at a plutonium plant and open up key sites to daily inspectors beginning next week. In exchange, world powers outlined how they will phase in \$7 billion worth of relief from international sanctions that have crippled Iran's economy. The full agreement has yet to be made public.

The agreement "will advance our goal of preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon," Obama declared in a statement Sunday. He reiterated a threat to veto any new sanctions legislation from Congress, saying such action risks "derailing our efforts." Carney added Monday that new sanctions

are "wholly unnecessary" because Congress could always act later.

The implementation agreement provides the nuts and bolts to November's breakthrough interim deal with Iran, an arrangement that can be extended by six additional months. Negotiators hope to replace it with

and many other countries fear Tehran is covertly advancing toward atomic weapons capability. Israel and Iran's Sunni Arab rivals such as Saudi Arabia have been most vocal in their skepticism of diplomacy, their concerns echoed by a growing chorus in Congress. Fifty-nine senators

supports additional economic pressure on Tehran. No sanctions vote is expected imminently. Congressional aides said top proponents such as Democratic Sens. Bob Menendez of New Jersey and Chuck Schumer of New York were waiting for the best opportunity to push the issue, with



**White House press secretary Jay Carney speaks during his daily news briefing, where he answers questions including on Iraq and Iran, at the White House in Washington, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.**

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

a comprehensive accord this year ending the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran. Iranian reformers and moderate conservatives welcomed the agreement Monday, while hardliners repeated their opposition. Iran's leaders say uranium and plutonium activity is designed solely for peaceful nuclear energy and medical research purposes, but the United States

now back the latest proposed U.S. sanctions package, which they say would increase the pressure on Iran to make concessions and fully dismantle — not simply slow down — the entire nuclear program. The count takes sanctions proponents closer to being able to push a bill through Congress and override even a presidential veto. The House overwhelmingly

much of the focus now on building a stronger coalition. Some Senate aides cited early February as the earliest possibility.

The legislation under consideration would blacklist several Iranian industrial sectors and threaten banks and companies around the world with being banned from the U.S. market if they help Iran export any more oil. □

**FOR SALE**



**Ruby 72**

This spacious 4 bedroom property is located at the end of a cul-de-sac in North. It has enough space to build a pool or guest apartment. The garden is fully fenced-in and has nice a landscaped yard. The built-up area is 217m<sup>2</sup>/ 2321 sq.ft. including the covered back porch, land size 837m<sup>2</sup>.

**US\$ 334.269,-**

**Century 21**  
Best & Solid Real Estate

Palm Beach 4-G  
Tel.: 586 4242  
www.arubahouses.com

**February:**

## Obama to meet North American leaders

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama will meet in Mexico next month with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said Monday that the meeting is set for Feb. 19 in Toluca, about an hour outside of Mexico City.

Carney said Obama looks forward to a discussion of

issues important to all North Americans, including economic competitiveness, trade and investment, entrepreneurship and security.

The meeting will be the first so-called North American Leaders Summit to include Pena Nieto. He was sworn into office in December 2012.

The White House says Obama spoke with Pena Nieto by telephone on Mon-

day and they discussed progress on the U.S.-Mexico agenda they set when they met during Obama's visit to Mexico last May. The White House says Obama congratulated Pena Nieto on reforms he has undertaken in his first year in office.

The most recent three-leader summit was held in Washington in April 2012 among Obama, Harper and then-Mexican President Felipe Calderon. □



# JOLLY PIRATES SUNSET SAILS NOW DEPART DAILY! CALL 586 8107

US Financial front:

## American government runs December surplus of \$53.2B



The U.S. Capitol is shown in Washington. The U.S. government ran a \$53.2 billion surplus in December, signaling further improvement in the nation's finances.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. government ran a \$53.2 billion surplus in December, signaling further improvement in America's finances.

The surplus was the largest since September and a record for the month of December, according to the Treasury Department report released Monday. It was boosted by nearly \$40 billion in payments from mortgage giants Fannie

Mae and Freddie Mac.

For the first three months of the budget year, which began on Oct. 1, the Treasury has run a deficit of \$173.6 billion. That's 40.8 percent below the \$293.3 billion deficit run during the same period last year.

Rising tax revenues and government spending constraints are expected to trim this year's annual deficit to around \$600 billion. That would be even lower than last year's deficit of \$680 billion, which

was the lowest since 2008. Annual deficits ballooned above \$1 trillion from 2009 through 2012. They peaked

at a record \$1.4 trillion in 2009, President Barack Obama's first year in office. The Great Recession led to a drop in tax revenue. At the same time, the government stepped up emergency spending, including unemployment benefits for millions who lose their jobs during the downturn.

The economy has gradually improved since the recession ended in June 2009. As more people find jobs, tax revenue rises and the deficit shrinks.

So far this year, revenue has totaled \$664.6 billion. That's 8 percent higher than the first three months of the previous budget year. Outlays have fallen 7.8 percent to \$838.2 billion.

The quarterly payment from Fannie and Freddie helped lift December's surplus. An improving housing market is allowing the

two companies to repay their taxpayer assistance after being rescued by the government in September 2008.

Congress reached agreement in December on a budget deal aimed at bringing some stability to the budget process for the next two years. A battle over the budget resulted in a 16-day partial government shutdown in October.

The agreement sets overall discretionary spending for the current budget year at \$1.012 trillion. That's slightly higher than the level sought by the Republican-controlled house. But it is below what the Democrat-controlled Senate had wanted. The additional \$45.5 billion in spending would be paid for by a range of measures, including a higher fee on airline tickets. □

## America challenges Chinese over high-tech steel imports

M. PENNINGTON

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The United States is accusing China of failing to comply with a World Trade Organization ruling against China's imposition of duties on high-tech American steel. Washington says the duties caused a \$250 million annual drop in exports.

The ruling concerns grain oriented flat-rolled electrical steel that is used primarily by the power generating industry. The WTO

ruled in November 2012 that China had unfairly imposed antidumping and countervailing duties.

China has reduced its duties, but the U.S. contends that step was insufficient.

The U.S. says it's the first time it is challenging Beijing's compliance with a WTO ruling. The U.S. sought consultations Monday with China within 15 days. If it is not satisfied by China's response, it can refer the case back to the WTO and potentially seek redress. □



# BINGO!

MONDAY, TUESDAY & SATURDAY • 4PM  
FRIDAY • 5PM

## TOTAL OF \$1,500 IN CASH PRIZES!

\$6 for 9 games includes the Powerball. Buy a stamp for \$2 to double your prizes.

Conditions apply. Management reserves all rights. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage® Club to participate. Must be 18 years of age or older. Play responsibly [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org).



**TROP**  
CLUB & CASINO

J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248  
Aruba, Dutch Caribbean  
[troparuba.com](http://troparuba.com)

TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | [TROPICANACASINOS.COM](http://TROPICANACASINOS.COM)

TROPICANA
MONTBLEU
GOOGICANA
TROPICANA
River Palace
GOOGICANA
BELLE
TROP



## red sail sports *Caribbean Sail*

Enjoy the sunset and a fantastic Caribbean buffet dinner aboard our catamaran. The sail includes steel drum music and open bar.

Tuesday from 5:30 to 8:00 pm

Book now! [www.redsailaruba.com](http://www.redsailaruba.com) or by phone: (+297) 586-1603



## Israel: Sharon laid to rest in military funeral

**ARON HELLER**  
**Associated Press**

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Ariel Sharon was laid to rest Monday at his ranch in southern Israel as the na-

tion bid a final farewell to one of its most colorful and influential leaders — a man venerated by supporters as a warrior and statesman but reviled in the Arab world as a war criminal.

from which he never recovered. He was 85. His younger son, Gilad, reenacted his final moments: in a hospital room, with music playing, family members



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu lays a wreath during the funeral of former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon during his funeral near Sycamore Farm, Sharon's residence in southern Israel, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014. Sharon was laid to rest Monday at his ranch in southern Israel as the nation bid a final farewell to one of its most colorful and influential leaders — a man venerated by supporters as a warrior and statesman but reviled in the Arab world as a war criminal.

(AP Photo/Baz Ratner)

tion bid a final farewell to one of its most colorful and influential leaders — a man venerated by supporters as a warrior and statesman but reviled in the Arab world as a war criminal. After Israeli politicians and international dignitaries honored Sharon, the military funeral carried a more personal tone, with Sharon's two sons eulogizing their father as an inspiration for the nation. On a day full of warm eulogies, speakers made only passing references to the exploits that made him such a divisive figure. Sharon died on Saturday, eight years after a devastating stroke removed the prime minister from office and left him in a coma

chatting and his grandchildren running about. "And only the hero of the play is lying motionless," he said, pausing. "I hold your hand and stroke your face, the face of my dying father. Beloved father, you have come home." With hundreds of officials and everyday Israelis on hand, Sharon's other son, Omri, addressed his father a final time. "Look around, and see the nation gathering around this hilltop. Look and see how they thank you for guarding them. How they appreciate you protecting them and leading them. How they love you and miss you and bow a head. You were worthy of such praise," he said.

trovery to become prime minister. He spent most of his life battling Arab enemies and promoting Jewish settlement on war-won lands. But in a surprising about-face, he led a historic withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005, uprooting all soldiers and settlers from the territory after a 38-year presence in a move he said was necessary to ensure Israel's security. His backers called him a hero, remembering his daring exploits that helped turn the tide of the 1973 Mideast war in Israel's favor and, after becoming prime minister, his harsh crackdown that helped end a violent Palestinian uprising. □

## Al-Qaida-linked group ousts rivals from north Syria town

**RYAN LUCAS**  
**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Fighters from an al-Qaida-linked group expelled rival rebels from a northern Syrian town after heavy clashes Monday, then quickly moved to eliminate any pockets of resistance by setting up checkpoints on major roads and conducting house-to-house raids in search of opponents, activists said. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's seizure of the town of al-Bab is part of a brutal battle between the al-Qaida-affiliated group and rebels from Islamist and more moderate factions that has raged across opposition-held territory in northern Syria for the past 11 days. The rebel-on-rebel clashes are the most serious since the Syrian civil war began, and have further muddled an already complicated conflict less than two weeks ahead of a planned international peace conference for Syria in Switzerland.

The pace and scale of the rebel war-within-a-war has eclipsed even that of the opposition's fight against President Bashar Assad, with at least 700 people killed since the infighting began Jan. 3, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Many civilians have welcomed the fight against the "Islamic State," which alienated large chunks of the public with brutal tactics such as kidnappings, extortion and beheadings as it sought to impose its strict interpretation of Islamic law. Fighters from the "Islamic State" captured al-Bab on Monday morning and quickly moved to

solidify their grip on the town northeast of the city of Aleppo, the Observatory and the Aleppo Media Center activist group said. "The Islamic state is going house by house to check who is a rebel fighter, who is a civilian," said Observatory director Rami Abdurrahman. "They have arrested tens of rebel fighters and civilians supporting them." The Observatory said fighters from the extremist group used mosque loudspeakers to call on people to hand over their weapons, and told residents that they came to apply Islamic law. At the same time, the group also set up checkpoints on roads into and out of the city, and its gunmen were scrutinizing the IDs of travelers passing through. The infighting has been ruthless, and there have been several reported mass killings of detainees, including last week at a hospital in Aleppo.

The latest reported case is in the adjacent province of Raqqqa, where the "Islamic State" killed at least 46 fighters from a rival ultraconservative Islamist brigade known as Ahrar al-Sham, Abdurrahman said. He said the killings occurred near the village of Kantari about 80 kilometers (50 miles) north of the provincial capital of Raqqqa city. On Sunday, Ahrar al-Sham on its official Twitter account accused the "Islamic State" of killing some 100 Ahrar detainees in Raqqqa. The rebel infighting comes ahead of an international conference planned to convene Jan. 22 in Montreux, Switzerland. □



Our famous open grill



Tango Restaurant is open 7 days a week from 4 pm till 11 pm  
Indoor & outdoor seating - Large Terrace with live music

**EARLY BIRD** 3-Course Menu  
Served between 4 pm and 7 pm  
Not valid in combination with other offers  
**Special \$22.<sup>95</sup>**

Located at Arawak Garden, For reservations call (297) 586 8600 - [www.tangoaruba.com](http://www.tangoaruba.com)

## Italian charged with killing Irish man over chess

**S. POGATCHNIK**  
**Associated Press**

**DUBLIN (AP)** — An Italian man allegedly cut open his Dublin landlord's chest and tried to eat his heart following a fight over a chess match.

Saverio Bellante, 34, was charged Monday with murder. Police say he admitted his guilt after being arrested Sunday at the home he shared with Tom O'Gorman, a policy researcher for a conservative Catholic think tank in Ireland.

Pathologists said the 39-year-old victim suffered dozens of severe knife wounds to his head and chest, which had been cut fully open. Ireland's senior pathologist determined that the heart remained, but a lung was missing.

Police offered no explanation for what happened to the lung. Evidence suggested that O'Gorman's prone head and body also were bludgeoned with a dumbbell.

Bellante called police to report the killing. He claimed to officers that he had cut open O'Gorman's chest and tried to eat his heart after a dispute over a move in a chess match the two had been playing. He offered no plea at his arraignment Monday in a Dublin court.

When Judge David McHugh asked him why he had no lawyers, Bellante said he wanted to represent himself and would decline state-funded legal aid.

A policeman, Det. Patrick Traynor, testified that, when charged with murder in police custody earlier Monday, Bellante replied: "I am guilty." □

## Survivors mark anniversary of Concordia wreck

**NICOLE WINFIELD**  
**TRICIA THOMAS**

**Associated Press**

**GIGLIO ISLAND, Italy (AP)**

— Survivors of the capsized Costa Concordia are commemorating the second anniversary of the grounding off Tuscany that killed 32 people with a candlelight march on Giglio island

slammed into a reef and capsized.

"I am here for my sister," said Madeleine Soria Molina of Peru, whose sister Erika Fani Soria Molina was among the crewmembers killed. "It is a way to be with her again, because the death of a member of your family — of a brother

dia before all passengers had been evacuated.

Passengers came from as far away as Russia and Britain to attend the hearing, but it was adjourned almost immediately after the commemoration because of a lawyers' strike. Schettino, who didn't attend the session, has said he's inno-

cent and saved lives. Residents of Giglio, meanwhile, are finally seeing the end of their ordeal, with June set as the date to remove the hobbled wreck from the island's port. They received a boost in spirits in September when salvage crews pulled off an unprecedented engineering

feat to right the 115,000-ton, 300-meter (1,000-foot)-long liner in preparation for it to be towed away. "Definitely (this anniversary) is something that takes us back to that terrible night, even if today we are looking at this anniversary ... with a light that is a little bit different," Giglio Mayor Sergio Ortelli told The Associated Press. "Today we are looking forward optimistically to what will be the final operation."

Giglio's commemorations will culminate Monday with an evening candlelight procession to mark the exact time — 9:45 p.m. — that the Concordia ran into the reef off Giglio and pierced a 70-meter (230-foot) gash in its hull.

Schettino is accused of having taken the ship off course in a stunt to bring it closer to Giglio, and then delaying the evacuation order until it was too late to lower many of the lifeboats from the listing liner. His lawyers have blamed other crewmembers for not following orders and said the ship itself malfunctioned.

In a statement Monday to the ANSA news agency, Schettino expressed his "profound condolences" to the relatives of the victims and said he would have liked to attend the Grosseto moment of silence but couldn't because of the strike. He said the anniversary "renews an indelible wound for all of us." □



People pray in front of a commemorative plaque bearing the names of the 32 victims of the Costa Concordia shipwreck, on the Tuscan Island of Giglio, Italy, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.

(AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

and a moment of silence in the courtroom where the captain is on trial.

Relatives of the dead also threw a wreath into the sea Monday and attended a Mass in the island's church that had welcomed in hundreds of passengers on the cold night of Jan. 13, 2012 when the Concordia

or sister — it is hard to get over it."

On the mainland, judges and survivors alike stood in silence inside the theater-turned-courtroom in Grosseto where Capt. Francesco Schettino stands accused of manslaughter, causing a shipwreck and abandoning the Concor-

cent and saved lives.

Residents of Giglio, meanwhile, are finally seeing the end of their ordeal, with June set as the date to remove the hobbled wreck from the island's port. They received a boost in spirits in September when salvage crews pulled off an unprecedented engineering

## Gunmen in Saudi Arabia fire on German diplomats

**RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)**

— Saudi Arabia's state news agency says unidentified gunmen have fired on two German diplomats in their vehicle in an eastern town. Saudi Press Agency quoted a police chief on

Monday as saying that the shooting took place at 6:00 PM in the town of al-Awamiya. The diplomats' vehicle caught fire but the two survived the attack, the agency said. A German foreign ministry official

in Berlin said neither was injured when the car was fired upon and caught fire, but gave no further details, speaking anonymously in line with ministry practice. The site of the attack is a restive district where Shiites,

who make up 10 percent of the kingdom's population, have been staging demonstrations against Saudi Arabia's Sunni rulers. Security forces frequently clash with protesters, arresting and detaining them. □



# AK-47 designer Kalashnikov wrote penitent letter

**V. ISACHENKOV**  
**Associated Press**

**MOSCOW (AP)** — In a regretful letter penned a few months before his death, Mikhail Kalashnikov, the designer of the AK-47 assault rifle, asked the head of the Russian Orthodox Church

kept asking himself if he was responsible. The AK-47 is the world's most popular firearm, with an estimated 100 million spread around the world.

"The pain in my soul is unbearable. I keep asking myself the same unsolv-

Kalashnikov also shared his bitter thoughts about humankind.

"The longer I live, the more often that question gets into my brain, the deeper I go in my thoughts and guesses about why the Almighty allowed humans

Kalashnikov's daughter, Elena, was quoted by Izvestia as saying that a local priest could have helped her father write the two-page letter, which was typed and carried his signature.

The rifle's simplicity and reliability made it a weapon of choice for the Third World insurgents backed by the Soviet Union. Moscow not only distributed the AK-47 widely but also licensed its production in some 30 other countries. The gun's cult status among revolutionaries and national-liberation fighters is enshrined on the flag of Mozambique.

The letter, which was sent in April, contrasted sharply with past statements by Kalashnikov, who had repeatedly said in interviews and public speeches that he created the weapon to protect his country and couldn't be blamed for other people's action.

"I sleep well. It's the politicians who are to blame for failing to come to an agreement and resorting to violence," the designer told The Associated Press in 2007. The church sought to comfort him with exactly same argument. Izvestia quoted Kirill's spokesman Alexander Volkov as saying the Patriarch responded to Kalashnikov and praised him as a true patriot. □



In this 1997 file photo, Mikhail Kalashnikov shows a model of his world-famous AK-47 assault rifle at home in the Ural Mountain city of Izhevsk, 625 miles east of Moscow.

(AP Photo/Vladimir Vyatkin)

if he was to blame for the deaths of those killed by his weapon.

The Russian daily Izvestia on Monday published the letter, in which Kalashnikov, who died last month at 94, told Patriarch Kirill that he

able question: If my assault rifle took people's lives, it means that I, Mikhail Kalashnikov, ... son of a farmer and Orthodox Christian am responsible for people's deaths," he said in the letter.

to have devilish desires of envy, greed and aggression," Kalashnikov continued. "Everything changes, only a man and his thinking remain unchanged: he's just as greedy, evil, heartless and restless as before!"

# Nearly extinct lily stolen from London garden

**LONDON (AP)** — A minuscule, nearly extinct water lily has been stolen from London's Royal Botanic Gardens, officials said Monday.

Britain's Metropolitan Police said the flower theft took place sometime Thursday when a *Nymphaea thermarum*, considered the world's smallest water lily, was pulled from a shallow pond in a glasshouse at the garden in Kew, west London.

The Botanic Garden's director of horticulture, Richard Barley, called the incident "a blow to morale." The lily — so rare that it doesn't have a common name — was discovered growing in the damp mud

of a hot water spring in southwest Rwanda by a German botanist in the 1980s. The minuscule plant grows delicate white flowers with yellow stamens and lily pads as small as 1 centimeter (around one third of an inch) across.

When the mud around the Rwandan spring dried up in 2008, the plant disappeared from the wild, but the gardens' Youki Crump said in an email that a handful had since been successfully reintroduced to the area.

The Royal Botanic Gardens, founded in 1759, is among the world's premier organizations for plant conservation. Its second site, in southern England, hosts



Horticulturist Carlos Magdalena points to an example of the rare and considered to be nearly extinct water lily *Nymphaea thermarum*. One of the minuscule water lily plants has been stolen from London's Royal Botanic Gardens, officials said Monday Jan. 13, 2014.

(AP Photo/RBG Kew)

the Millennium Seed Bank, a project aimed at safe-

guarding the future of the world's wild plants. □

# China tourist town burned despite new safety system

**BEIJING (AP)** — A fire prevention system costing more than \$1 million wasn't functioning and failed to prevent a blaze that razed an ancient tourist town in southwest China, the fire service said Monday.

The system in Dukezong had been shut down to prevent pipes from bursting in the below-freezing temperatures, the Degen prefecture fire brigade said on its microblog. The service said the system was installed in 2011 at a cost of 8 million yuan (\$1.3 million). In addition to the system's failure, the freezing temperatures lowered water pressure in hydrants when the fire broke out at about 1:30 a.m. Saturday.

The wooden houses burned quickly, while fire trucks were unable to penetrate narrow streets and alleys.

The official Xinhua News Agency said investigators had determined that the fire started at the local Ruyi Inn when a faulty electrical outlet set a curtain on fire. Tourism is virtually the only industry in the traditional Tibetan region.

The ancient Tibetan quarter of Dukezong dates back more than 1,000 years and is known for its preserved cobbled streets, ancient structures and Tibetan culture.

The fire raged for nearly 10 hours and destroyed 242 structures. About 2,600 people were left homeless, although no casualties were reported. Once called Gyaitang Zong, the county surrounding Dukezong renamed itself Shangri-La in 2001, hoping to draw tourists by referencing the mythical Himalayan land described in James Hilton's 1933 novel. Reached by phone Monday, a 36-year-old businessman who lost his bookshop and convenience store in the fire said the business community would likely rebuild with government help. □



# JOLLY PIRATES

**SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING**  
**DAILY 9am - 1pm \$60 pp**  
 Visit 3 Great sites with BBQ,  
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

**AFTERNOON CRUISE**  
**DAILY 2pm - 5pm \$45 pp**  
 Our shorter snorkel cruise, with  
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

**DAILY SUNSET SAIL**  
**DAILY 5:30pm - 7:30pm \$32 pp**  
 Enjoy spectacular sunset. Open  
 Bar & Ropeswing included

**Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations ONLY - Present coupon at boarding**

**586 8107/592 7858**

**Save \$10 per couple/per coupon for morning cruise**  
**Save \$5 per couple/per coupon for afternoon cruise**

## Protesters occupy Bangkok's central business district

THOMAS FULLER

© 2014 New York Times

**BANGKOK** - Bangkok's central commercial district was swarmed by anti-government protesters Monday as part of a so-called shut-down of the city, a largely peaceful demonstration

that cut most traffic to Thailand's costliest real estate and most prestigious addresses.

The protest was the boldest move in two months of protests against the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Protesters frustrated with what they say is a dysfunctional political system have issued some of the most radical political demands seen in Asia in recent years: the scrapping of elections scheduled for February, a hiatus for democracy and

the formation of an alternative form of government involving an unelected "people's council" that would replace Parliament. "We need to shut the capital to tell people that this government has lost its legitimacy," said Uracha Trairatt, a businessman who flew from the southern island of Phuket to join the protests. "The government is now destroying itself." The protest had echoes of a protracted demonstration three years ago that closed off some of the same areas of Bangkok and ended with a military crackdown that left dozens of people dead. There were no reports of violence from the protest areas by late Monday afternoon, and some observers said the demonstration resembled a car-free festival more than a serious threat to the government. But a radical and aggressive faction of the protesters threatened to take over the country's stock exchange and air traffic

control system if Yingluck's government did not step down by Wednesday.

In making that threat, one of the leaders of the faction, Nitithorn Lamua, said protest leaders had already been charged by the government with rebellion, so they "could not lose."

"We will fight until we win," he said.

The International Crisis Group, a research organization, said Monday that the "scope for peaceful resolution is narrowing," and that the campaign to stop elections "raises prospects of widespread political violence" and could provoke a military coup.

"Competing Thai elites - with mass backing - disagree fundamentally about how political power should be acquired and exercised," the group said. During two months of demonstrations on Bangkok's streets, protesters have raided the Finance Ministry and other key government offices, temporarily cut power to Police Headquarters and blocked the registration of candidates for the election.

Chadchart Sittipunt, the transport minister, asked protesters to "think of the country" and urged them not to shut down the air traffic control office.

"This is going beyond the expression of opinion in a democratic way," he said. Yingluck, who, with her brother, Thaksin Shinawatra, a former prime minister and business tycoon living in self-imposed exile, is the main target of the protests, has insisted for weeks that there is no legal avenue for postponing the elections scheduled for Feb. 2.



Anti-government protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban speaks to his supporters Monday, Jan. 13, 2014, in Bangkok, Thailand. The protesters seized key intersections across Thailand's capital on Monday, blockading major roads into the heart of Bangkok's glitzy downtown districts at the start of a renewed push to derail elections next month and overthrow Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. (AP Photo/Sakchai Lalit)

## Greek Socialists face polls under new name

DEREK GATOPOULOS

Associated Press

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — Greece's once-dominant Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement, or Pasok, will participate in May's European Parliament elections as part of a new center-left alliance and not independently, after popular support for the party collapsed during the country's painful economic bailout. Pasok officials said Monday that its candidates would seek election in the May 22-25 polls under a newly formed Progressive Demo-

crats' Party, created by center-left politicians and academics. A similar alliance is also planned for local government elections, also planned for May.

The Socialists dominated Greek politics for decades, but their popularity has been hammered as voters blamed the party for the country's severe financial crisis and grew angry at austerity measures imposed under the country's bailout. Support for Pasok fell below 5 percent in a December tracking poll, tumbling from nearly

44 percent in a landslide general election victory in 2009. "We would like to see our cooperation extended to national elections ... Our party salutes the decision to create a broader alliance," Dimitris Karidis, a Pasok spokesman, told the AP. Pasok is currently the junior coalition partner in government with its traditional rivals, the center-right New Democracy, as the two parties face a growing challenge from anti-bailout political groups. The Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement was

founded 40 years ago by charismatic late prime minister Andreas Papandreou, months after the collapse of a military dictatorship, and swept to power in 1981. The party presided over extended periods of economic growth, spending 24 years in one-party governments and coalitions, but has been criticized for patronage in the public sector and cronyism. The party currently dominates local government as well as the country's representation in the European Parliament.



## India marks 3 years since last polio case reported

**NIRMALA GEORGE**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — India marked three years Monday since its last reported polio case, putting the country on course to being formally declared free of the disease later this year.

India has made great strides against polio in recent years through a rigorous vaccination campaign. But for many in India, where polio victims with withered, twisted limbs are a common sight on the streets, these advances have come too late. "My parents were very poor and couldn't afford medical treatment for me," said Sonu Kumar, 24, who contracted the disease when he was 10. Paralyzed from the waist down, he begs outside a temple in central Delhi and uses a wheelchair to move around.

Polio is a vaccine-preventable disease that has been eradicated in most countries. But it still causes paralysis or death in some parts of the world, including Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Polio usually infects children under age 5 when

they drink contaminated water. The virus attacks the central nervous system, causing paralysis, muscular atrophy, deformation and, in some cases, death.

"India was once thought to be the most difficult country in which to achieve polio eradication," Global Polio Eradication Initiative said in a

Still, Junior Home Minister R.P.N. Singh sent a triumphant message on Twitter: "Proud day for all of us as Indians ... India is polio free for three years."

Widespread poverty, dense population, poor sanitation, high levels of migration and a weak public health system made the task of reaching out to every child un-

scourge. The number of polio cases came down from 741 in 2009 to 42 in 2010.

The last case of polio was reported in eastern India in 2011.

In 2012, WHO removed India from a list of countries with active endemic wild polio transmission after it passed one year without registering any new cases. Health officials remained concerned about the possibility of the virus entering the country from neighboring Pakistan. Indian health authorities have set up polio immunization booths at the two border crossings with Pakistan and all children who enter by road and train are being given vaccines.

Mithlesh Devi, 27, who contracted the disease when she was 1 year old, said she has never known a normal life in India but has hopes for her family's future. "I have ensured that my daughters do not meet the same fate," said Devi, who begs for money outside Hindu temples in New Delhi. "I got them polio drops at the right age. I am not happy with my tough life. But I have no choice." □



**An Indian medical volunteer administers polio immunization drops to a child at a railway station in Allahabad, India, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014. India on Monday marked three years since its last polio case was reported, a major milestone in eradicating the crippling disease.** (AP Photo/Rajesh Kumar Singh)

statement.

Monday's milestone was significant, but the World Health Organization stills need to confirm there are no undetected cases before making the official declaration that India is polio-free in March.

der age 5 that much more difficult.

An army of nearly 2.5 million volunteers, doctors and medical workers carried out a campaign across the country to vaccinate children over three years to wipe out the

## 6.4-quake hits Puerto Rico; no major damage

**DANICA COTO**  
**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**

— A strong earthquake out to sea that shook Puerto Rico early Monday is one of the largest to hit the U.S. territory in recent years, cracking floors and causing some power outages, but no major damages or injuries, officials said.

The 6.4-magnitude quake struck just after midnight about 35 miles (57 kilometers) north of Hatillo, at a depth of 17 miles (28 kilometers), according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

At least 70 aftershocks have been reported since then, with at least three of a magnitude 3.5 or greater, said Gisela Baez Sanchez, a geologist with Puerto Rico's Seismic Network.

"All of Puerto Rico is in a seismic danger zone," she said in a phone interview. "We have to be prepared."

Broken windows, a busted water line and cracked floors and walls were reported in some areas along the north coast, while authorities said power outages occurred in the north city of Bayamon, close to the island's capital. Dozens of people said they felt buildings sway in the capital of San Juan, about 61 miles (98 kilometers) from the quake's epicenter.

Hundreds of people called Puerto Rico's emergency management agency, but no injuries or major damages have been reported, spokesman Carlos Acevedo said in a phone interview.

The agency did not emit a tsunami alert, he said.

"The damages have been minor," Acevedo said. "No one has required our services."

However, Puerto Ricans criticized the island's government through social media, saying that no emergency alert was issued immediately after the quake. Authorities said they would have sent an alert immediately if people had been at risk of a tsunami. □

## Colombia peace talks resume in Havana

**HAVANA (AP)** — Colombian government and rebel negotiators have resumed peace talks in the Cuban capital after a three-week recess. Ivan Marquez is the nom de guerre of a leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, or FARC, whose birth name is Luciano Marin. He's urging Colombians back home not to vote for candidates who oppose the peace process in March legislative and May presidential elections. Marquez says "no candidacy of the right, much less the extreme right, is an option for achieving peace." Talks resumed Monday and are continuing to focus on the country's entrenched drug trade. It is the third item on the six-point agenda for the negotiations, which began in late 2012.



**Humberto de la Calle, head of Colombia's government peace negotiation team, center, Sergio Jaramillo, left and Frank Pearl, arrive at the start of the 19th round of peace talks with members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, in Havana, Cuba, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.** (AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

Partial agreements have already been reached

on land issues and the guerrillas' political partici-

pation in a post-conflict Colombia. □





## Romantic renewal of vows on the beach for Jonathan and Dina!

**DRUIF BEACH** - Jon & Dina, celebrating fifteen years of marriage decided to renew their wedding vows in Aruba while on a family vacation with their two daughters Bailey Sarah & Melanie Rose. The girls stood by their parents on the lovely Divi beach on January 7th, 2014, at sunset, as Reverend Gregory Lyder officiated over the ceremony captured by photographer Carmen Mesa Restrepo. Inge Van Roon, Director of Banquet and Events Sales, Divi & Tamarijn All Inclusive & Divi Resorts reports the family as a whole took part in the Unity Sand Ceremony, symbolizing their love and commitment to each other and the blending of their lives together. Our pictures attest to the Layish family's meaningful and memorable sunset experience. □





## Marriott Vacation Club Aruba Celebrates Top Performing Associates



**PALM BEACH (January 13, 2014)** – Marriott Vacation Club Aruba's Sales and Marketing organization held its year-end celebration and awards ceremony honoring top performing team members in Palm Beach last December. Associates enjoyed an evening of disco music, dancing, great food and cocktails in honor of the top performing associates for 2013.

The festive event was orchestrated by Natasia Dragt, Human Resources Manager, Noanni Cham, Director of Sales, Theolinda Richardson, Director of Marketing, Ron Moser, Re-

gional Director of Sales, Ligenne Trimon, Mirna Loefstop, and Bettina Gonzalez, Project Director for Sales and Marketing.

Fernando Chumpitazi received five awards, including Marketing Executive of the Year at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club and the prestigious Marriott Vacation Club, Aruba Award of Excellence.

Eighteen Marketing Executives and Sales Executives also received awards for exceptional business achievements at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club. Marketing Sapphire Awardswere earned by Fernando Chumpitazi, Gisela Sa,



Theadjen Giel, Jacqueline Marlin, Marry Maduro, Zuraila Wever, Ben Pombo, Darwin Quero, Giancarlo Angela and Keila Alcantara. Marketing Super Sapphire Awards went to Claudia Simmons and Enrique Ochoa. Sales Sapphire Awards were earned by Tina Lampe, Nayda Lopez, Sigifredo Castaño, Francis Groeneveldt, Charmaine York and Tamara Jorge. Encouraging their talents in the Sales & Marketing Department Enrique Ochoa (Marketing) and Sigifredo Castaño (Sales) won Rookie of the Year for their efforts. Tina Lampe and Nayda Lopez were both elected Sales Executive of the Year 2013, Mariska Winterdaal became Associ-



**Beauty On The Beach**

*Stephanie & Angelique*

**Stephanie Borgis (left) and Angelique Jawalapersad (right), from Paramaribo, Suriname.**

**WINNER OF TRIP ADVISOR'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE 2012**  
Best Lobster House and International Cuisine's Restaurant

**The Blue Lobster**

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE

**Phone: 586-3843**

ate of the Year and Mirna Loefstop earned the title of Manager of the Year.

Marriott's Aruba Surf Club also acknowledged Gary Barnes Sulaika Dubero and Leon Wardenaar who scored highest in Customer Satisfaction Scores. Charmaine York was recognized for Best Sales Attitude in 2013.

Top performing Marketing Executives of the Year 2013 included Ed Adonis, Keila Alcantara, Claudia Simmons, Darwin Quero, Edwin Maduro and Fernando Chumpitazi.

Along with the 2013 top awards at Marriott's Aruba Surf Club, the Marriott Vacation Club "GOVETS" Awards recognize excellence in Guest service, Owner service, Volume, Expense goals, Teamwork and Self-Development. As a result of the nominations and subsequent elections by fellow colleagues, the "GOVETS" of the year recipients include: Aisha Romano, Francis Groeneveldt, Fernando Chumpitazi, Shirley Ferguson, Ben Pombo, and Margareth Hall. □



## Loyal Visitors honored at the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort



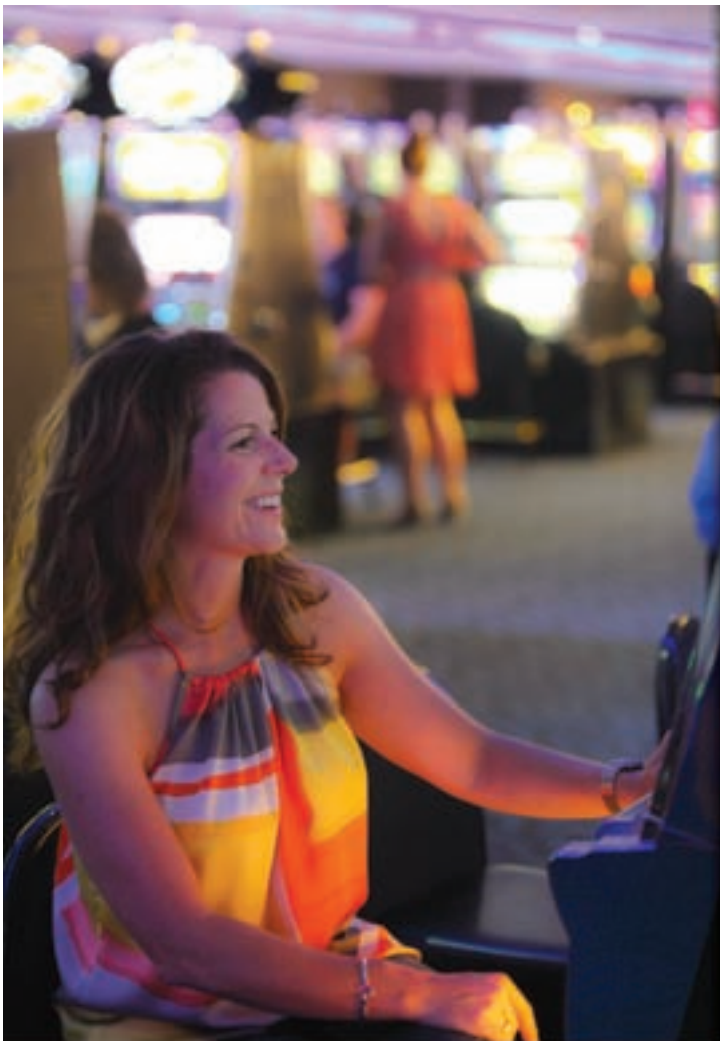
**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice family whom are loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Casa Del Mar as Distin-

guished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for

10-to-19 and 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Nathan and Marla Krypella and daughter Loren Moslin. The honorees are loyal members of the Casa Del

Mar and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and being on Aruba and staying at the Casa Del Mar is like being home

for them. The certificates were presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Nohely Cannegieter representing the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort. □



# 2X Double Point Tuesday!

## Earn DOUBLE POINTS All Day Long!

Use your *Alhambra Advantage* card to play our slots from 10am to 4am and we'll DOUBLE your points for DOUBLE Cash Back!

*Where Aruba goes to play!*

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • [www.casinoalhambra.com](http://www.casinoalhambra.com)

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

**Alhambra**  
CASINO AND SHOPS





## Djokovic, Serena Williams win at Australian Open

**DENNIS PASSA**

**AP Sports Writer**

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)**

— A rusty Novak Djokovic began his bid for a fourth consecutive Australian Open title on Monday with a win over Lukas Lacko while Serena Williams looked as polished as ever beating Australian teenager Ashleigh Barty.

With his new coach and six-time Grand Slam singles champion Boris Becker watching him during an official match for the first time, Djokovic appeared tentative early against the Slovakian player, who often appeared content to keep the ball in play.

But as the second-seeded Djokovic's patience level began to drop, his skill level stepped up.

He stayed on course for a fifth Australian title with a 6-5, 7-6 (2), 6-1 win, hoping to be the first man to achieve that feat since the Open Era began in 1968.

Top-ranked Williams won her 23rd consecutive match — including 18 at the end of last season and four last week in winning the Brisbane International — after beating Barty 6-2, 6-1 in 57 minutes.

"You have to be ready," Williams said. "She had nothing to lose."

Williams continues to be in rarified territory. Her Bris-



Serena Williams of the United States hits a forehand return to Ashleigh Barty of Australia during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.

bane title was the 58th of her career — she won 11 last year, including the French Open and U.S. Open.

A five-time winner of the Australian Open, she's trying to end Victoria Azarenka's two-year run as women's champion at Melbourne Park.

Williams won 10 of 11 points at the net during the Barty match, but tried to dowse expectations that she'll vacate her usual place at the baseline.

"In my mind I've been at the net (previously), but now I'm physically going there a little more," Williams said.

"No pressure. My next match I might stay at the baseline the whole time. It's nothing I'm permanently working on. I'm just trying to have fun and do what I want to do out there."

Djokovic also had a strong finish to 2013, entering the tournament on a 24-match winning streak, which followed his loss to Rafael Nadal in last year's U.S. Open final.

He's now also on a 22-match winning streak at Melbourne Park.

"It is the first competitive match I've had this season, I haven't played for five or six weeks," Djokovic said.

Associated Press

Continued on page 20



In this Aug. 25, 2013 file photo, New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez watches from the dugout during the first inning of a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg, Fla.

## A-Rod sues MLB, union to overturn drug ban

**LARRY NEUMEISTER**

**RONALD BLUM**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez sued Major League Baseball and its players' union Monday, seeking to overturn a season-long suspension imposed by an arbitrator who ruled there was "clear and convincing evidence" he used three

banned substances and twice tried to obstruct the sport's drug investigation.

As part of the lawsuit filed in federal court in Manhattan, the Yankees third baseman made public Saturday's 33-decision by arbitrator Fredric Horowitz, who shortened a penalty originally set at 211 games last August by baseball Com-

missioner Bud Selig.

"While this length of suspension may be unprecedented for a MLB player, so is the misconduct he committed," Horowitz wrote in his decision Saturday.

Rodriguez in his suit claimed the Major League Baseball Players Association "completely abdicated its responsibility to Mr. Rodriguez

to protect his rights" and "this inaction by MLBPA created a climate in which MLB felt free to trample" on Rodriguez's confidentiality rights.

Rodriguez asked for the court to find MLB violated its agreements with the union, that the union breached its duty to represent him and to throw out Horowitz's decision. □



# Late surge leads Walker to victory at Waialae

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Jimmy Walker pulled away with three straight birdies late in the final round and closed with a 7-under 63 to win the Sony Open.

Walker went 187 tournaments and seven years without winning on the PGA Tour. Now he has won twice in his last six starts, and is No. 1 in the Ryder Cup standings.

"It took me a long time to do it," Walker said. "I felt very calm and controlled. That's what you've got to feel and do when it's time to win. It's easy to say, hard to do. But today was awesome. Really cool golf."

Sunday was so tight that there was a five-way tie for the lead with two hours remaining.

Walker's big run began with a 12-foot par on the 14th hole. One shot behind Harris English, Walker rolled in a 15-foot birdie putt on the 15th hole, and took the outright lead when English — behind him in the final group — failed to save par from a bunker.

Walker made a 7-foot birdie putt on the 16th, and stuck his tee shot into 6 feet for birdie on the par-3 17th. A par on the last hole made him wait just a little bit longer.

Chris Kirk had a 30-foot eagle chip from just short of the green on the par-5 18th that would have forced a playoff. It stayed right of the hole, and Kirk made the birdie putt for a 66 to finish alone in second place.

Jerry Kelly (65) was alone in



Jimmy Walker watches his drive off the 14th tee during the fourth round of the Sony Open golf tournament at Waialae Country Club, Sunday, Jan. 12, 2014, in Honolulu.

third. English never recovered from his bogey. He missed birdie putts on the last three holes for a 67.

Walker won the Frys.com Open in October, the first tournament of the new wraparound season. As the first multiple winner on the PGA Tour this season, he went to No. 1 in the Ryder Cup standings and is closing in on cracking the top 30 in the world.

Walker finished at 17-under 263 and earned \$1.08 million. He already qualified for his first Masters by winning in October. Now he's piling up the wins.

With so many players in contention, the key was to keep bogeys off the card. Walker had made at least two bogeys in each of the three previous rounds, and

it looked as if he was headed for one at the wrong time on the 14th hole when he chipped from an awkward stance near the bunker to about 12 feet. Kelly missed a 15-foot par putt from the same line, and Walker poured it in. And then, he was off to the races.

Masters champion Adam Scott, in the first group on the back nine, went out in 30 and was one shot out of the lead just as the final group was starting play. Scott hit too many poor drives to keep it going, and the way the final two groups played the back nine, it wouldn't have mattered. Scott tied for eighth (seven shots behind), and after a tie for sixth last week at Kapalua, heads into a

six-week hibernation before returning to golf in Florida.

The three players with the best shots at winning all won last fall in the early part of the wraparound season — Kirk at the McGladrey Classic, English in Mexico. Kirk, who had a one-shot lead going into the final round, made birdie on the 17th hole to stay within two shots of the lead and at least entertain the idea of eagle. His approach out of the rough needed about two more hops on the firm turf at Waialae to get on the green.

English ran off two birdies around the turn, took the outright lead with an 8-foot birdie on the 14th, and that was as close as he got.

"Just started hitting it better, but started putting a

little worse," English said. Will Wilcox, a rookie who played with a yellow golf ball, made only one birdie in a round of 71. He was in a large group at 10-under 270 that included Kapalua winner Zach Johnson, Matt Kuchar, Charles Howell III, Retief Goosen and Pat Perez. □

**GANDELMAN**

Store Locations

Renaissance Mall  
Hyatt Regency  
Marriott Hotel

Phone: +297 529 9900  
info@gandelman.net  
www.gandelman.net



**ROLEX**

*Cartier*



**PATEK PHILIPPE**  
GENEVE

DAVID YURMAN

**BVLGARI**

**ANA MORRIS**

CARRERA *CARRERA*  
MADRID



**TechnoMarine**  
GENEVE

**MIMÍ**

**Lisa Nik**

*Powellato*

**BRERA**  
OROLOGI



**VICTORINOX**



**JEMMA WYNNE**

## Spaniards Nani Roma, Marc Coma keep Dakar Rally lead

**CALAMA, Chile (AP)** — Spaniards Nani Roma and Marc Coma maintained their leads in the overall standings of the Dakar Rally after Monday's eighth stage. Roma finished only sixth in the car stage, but still leads 11-time champion Stephane Peterhansel by 23 minutes, 46 seconds in the overall. Nasser Al-Attiyah of Qatar won the

stage, 1:12 ahead of Peterhansel and 2:15 in front of Carlos Sainz of Spain. In bikes, Coma leads fellow Spaniard Joan Barreda Bort by 38:08 in the overall. Jordi Viladoms, another Spaniard, is almost 1 1/2 hours behind. Frenchman Cyril Despres won the stage with Barreda Bort 2:09 behind and Coma trailing by 2:15. Tuesday's



KTM rider Marc Coma of Spain races during the eighth stage of the Dakar Rally between the cities Uyuni, Bolivia and Calama, Chile in Kui, Bolivia, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.

ninth stage is from Calama to Iquique, Chile, with the

finish on Saturday in Valparaiso, Chile. □

Associated Press



## Australian Open

Continued from page 18

"I was a bit rusty on the court the first two sets. Afterwards it was all working well."

Serena's sister, Venus Williams, started well earlier Monday but unforced errors in two key periods in her match sent the seven-time major winner out of the tournament.

The elder Williams missed a break-point chance in the sixth game and then, after getting to 40-30 on serve in the ninth, inexplicably fired three consecutive double-faults to surrender a break and just about the set to No. 22-seeded Ekaterina Makarova.

She took a 3-0 lead in the third before her unforced error toll climbed to 56 and Makarova won six of the next seven games for a 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 win.

The 33-year-old Venus Williams, the second-oldest player in the tournament, has struggled with inju-



Novak Djokovic of Serbia makes a backhand return to Lukas Lacko of Slovakia during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.

Associated Press

ries and illness in recent seasons but reached the final of the WTA event at Auckland to start 2014 and came to Melbourne saying she was feeling better than she had in years.

"The last 12 months I have had issues," she said. "But this year I definitely am looking forward to having a good run and feeling well." Three-highly-ranked players were beaten in the first round, including 2011 Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova and two Italians, No. 7 Sara Errani and No. 12 Roberta Vinci.

Sixth-seeded Kvitova lost 6-2, 1-6, 6-4 to No. 88-ranked Luksika Kumkhum of Thailand, who was playing in just her second Grand Slam tournament. Women's winners included two-time Australian Open finalist Li Na, Wimbledon semifinalist Kirsten Flipkens, No. 9 Angelique Kerber, 2011 U.S. Open champion Sam Stosur, No. 14 Ana Ivanovic, No. 26 Lucie Safarova, No. 28 Flavia Pennetta,

No. 30 Eugenie Bouchard and No. 31 Daniela Hantuchova.

Eighth-seeded Stanislas Wawrinka, who won the recent Chennai Open, was the first man into the next round, advancing after just 15 games when Andrey Golubev retired with an injured left leg.

Other winners were third-ranked David Ferrer, No. 7 Tomas Berdych, No. 9 Richard Gasquet, No. 14 Mikhail Youzhny, No. 17 Tommy Robredo, No. 19 Kevin Anderson, No. 23 Ernests Gulbis, No. 29 Jeremy Chardy, No. 32 Ivan Dodig and American Sam Querrey. □



# Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

## Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009

### Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com) Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.





AT DE PALM PIER BETWEEN  
RADISSON AND RIU  
WWW.BUGALOE.COM  
T: (297) 586 2233  
INFO@BUGALOE.COM

TODAY!  
HAPPY HOUR  
AT BUGALOE  
5-6 PM

SPECIAL PRICES ON  
\* BALASHI  
\* BALASHI CHILL  
\* MOJITO



## NHL Roundup

# Tavares leads Islanders over Stars 4-2

**DALLAS (AP)** — John Tavares scored with 1:24 remaining and Brock Nelson added an empty-net goal to lead the New York Islanders to a 4-2 victory over the slumping Dallas Stars on Sunday.

Kyle Okposo had two goals in New York's fourth consecutive victory. The Islanders also have won seven straight road games.

The Islanders rallied past the Stars after trailing 2-0 after one period for the second time in a week. This time, New York scored three goals in the final 4:16. Dallas has lost six in a row for the first time since March 2011.

Ray Whitney and Sergei Gonchar scored first-period goals for the Stars against goalie Kevin Poulin, who finished with 29 saves. Buffalo 2, Washington 1, SO Buffalo's Cody Hodgson decided a lackluster game with the only goal in the shootout as the Sabres beat the Washington Capitals 2-1 to avoid matching the longest road losing streak in club history.

Hodgson, returning after missing eight games with a hand injury, beat Philipp Grubauer in a skills contest that mirrored the rest of the game — not many quality chances, hardly any pucks in the net.

Tyler Ennis scored in the first period, and Ryan Miller made 28 saves for the Sabres, whose 11-game road skid was the second-longest in club history, behind a 12-game streak in the 2011-12 season.

Jason Chimera also scored in the opening period, and Grubauer made 30 saves for the Capitals, who have lost five of seven.

Toronto 3, New Jersey 2, SO



Minnesota Wild goalie Darcy Kuemper blocks a shot against the Nashville Predators in the third period of an NHL hockey game, Sunday, Jan. 12, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn. Kuemper stopped 23 shots as the Wild won 4-0.

Associated Press

At Toronto, James van Riemsdyk scored in the shootout to lift the Maple Leafs over the New Jersey Devils 3-2.

Bozak and van Riemsdyk scored in regulation for Toronto, which had lost four straight since winning the Winter Classic on Jan. 1.

Toronto goalie Jonathan Bernier stopped 36 of the 38 shots he faced through overtime. He then denied Jaromir Jagr, Ryane Clowe and Reid Boucher in the shootout to get his 14th win.

Adam Henrique and Clowe had New Jersey's goals. Cory Schneider, who narrowly missed out on making the U.S. Olympic team as the third goalie, made 23 saves.

N.Y. Rangers 4, Philadelphia 1

The New York Rangers trounced the Philadelphia Flyers 4-1 after Daniel Carcillo, Rick Nash and Derick Brassard scored less than 10 minutes into the game, and Henrik Lundqvist made 37 saves.

Chris Kreider netted his team-leading 12th goal in the second period to help the Rangers win their third straight and fourth in five (4-0-1). New York, 8-2-1 in its last 11, is tied in points with Washington for second place in the Metropolitan Division — one ahead of Philadelphia.

The Rangers have won seven straight against the Flyers at home, outscoring them 28-8.

Ray Emery rebounded after the rough first period

and finished with 31 saves for the Flyers.

Lundqvist lost his shutout bid when Mark Streit scored a power-play goal 6:49 into the third.

In other games, Marian Hossa had a power-play goal and an assist as the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Edmonton Oilers 5-3 to end a three-game losing streak, the Minnesota Wild blanked the Nashville Predators 4-0, the Anaheim Ducks downed the Detroit Red Wings 1-0. □



# Cristiano Ronaldo wins FIFA best player award

By **GRAHAM DUNBAR**

AP Sports Writer

**ZURICH (AP)** -- Cristiano Ronaldo couldn't hide how much it meant to him, finally being voted the world's best soccer player again.

Having spent four years in the shadow of his great rival Lionel Messi, Ronaldo broke down in tears after being elected the Ballon d'Or winner for 2013 on Monday - a rare display of emotion that showed just how important it was for the Portugal winger to get his hands on the trophy again.

Ronaldo first won soccer's biggest individual prize five years ago, but then watched as Messi found a way of upstaging him each year despite consistently scoring at an unprecedented rate for Real Madrid.

"There are no words to describe this moment," said Ronaldo, crying openly while his 3-year-old son, also named Cristiano, stood at his feet. The little boy had just been hoisted by Brazil great Pele to touch the golden trophy as dad gathered himself to speak. "People who know me know how many people



**Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal, left, and Nadine Angerer of Germany pose with their trophies after being elected FIFA Men's and Women's soccer player of the year 2013 at the FIFA Ballon d'Or 2013 gala at the Kongresshaus in Zurich, Switzerland, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.**

helped me," Ronaldo said in Portuguese. "If I have forgotten anyone, I do apologize because I am deeply moved."

Earlier Monday, Ronaldo was cautiously diplomatic at a news conference, facing reporters who mostly predicted his prolific 69-goal tally in 2013 would end Messi's four-year victory run. Ronaldo's stunning hat trick

against Sweden in a decisive World Cup playoff in November also appeared to stand out as the year's defining individual performance. "If I win, fine. If I don't, life goes on," he said, acknowledging that Messi's sustained excellence for Madrid nemesis Barcelona had pushed him to improve.

Ronaldo also said he has

made peace with FIFA President Sepp Blatter, whose ill-judged comments in October stating a preference for Messi seemed to confirm a long-held belief in Portugal and Madrid that their player was destined to lose. "We talked over the telephone and everything was cleared," Ronaldo said before the ceremony. "This is no longer an issue, neither for us nor for football."

In a tight race, Ronaldo received 1,365 points, Messi had 1,205 and Franck Ribery, the France and Bayern Munich winger, got 1,127. Voting was done by national team captains and coaches, plus selected journalists in each FIFA member country.

On hearing his name called - delivered by Pele after a dramatic pause and smile - Ronaldo closed his eyes, grinned and dipped his head, then turned to kiss his girlfriend, model Irina Shayk, before walking to the stage.

Pele greeted Ronaldo with a hug minutes after he also cried on stage when collecting an honorary Ballon d'Or for his own outstand-

ing career.

Ronaldo's victory was fitting on an evening when FIFA paid tribute to another great Portugal forward, Eusebio, who died last week. FIFA also stressed that Ronaldo's win owed nothing to an extension of the initial balloting deadline beyond the World Cup playoff. His display in Stockholm was so impressive it seemed certain to sway voters when Messi was sidelined by his third injury of the year.

Still, FIFA spokesman Walter De Gregorio said Monday the standings were unchanged by the voting rules adjustment.

Though Ribery lost, Bayern got one victory as Jupp Heynckes won the coaching award for leading the team to a Champions League, Bundesliga and national cup treble last season before he retired. Heynckes defeated Jurgen Klopp of Borussia Dortmund and Alex Ferguson, who retired after winning another Premier League title for Manchester United. European champion Germany swept the women's awards. □

## NBA Capsules

# Thomas has 26 to lead Kings' 124-80 rout of Cavs

The Associated Press

**SACRAMENTO, California (AP)** — Isaiah Thomas scored 26 points to lead the Sacramento Kings to their third straight victory, a 124-80 rout of the Cleveland Cavaliers on Sunday. The Kings scored 16 straight points in the third quarter and led by 28 points heading into the fourth. The three-game winning streak is Sacramento's first since December 2012. The 45-point margin was the largest this season for the Kings.

C.J. Miles had 14 points and Luol Deng added 12 for the Cavaliers, who had won two straight.

Cleveland went just over five minutes without a bas-

ket in the third quarter, when it shot 4 of 20 and was outscored 30-11. The Cavaliers were outscored 65-30 in the second half.

Kyrie Irving, the Cavaliers' leading scorer, missed 11 of 14 shots, 3 of 4 free throws, and finished with seven points.

SPURS 104, TIMBERWOLVES 86

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — Kawhi Leonard scored 13 of his 17 points in the second half as San Antonio held off Minnesota for its fourth straight win.

Tim Duncan had 15 points and Tony Parker added 14 points and 10 assists for Western Conference-leading San Antonio. Matt Bonner also scored 14 points —

including 4-for-5 shooting on 3-pointers — and Marco Belinelli had 13 points and Patty Mills added 10.

Nikola Pekovic scored 22 points to lead Minnesota. Kevin Love had 14 points and Alexey Shved added 11.

Already without Manu Ginobili and Tiago Splitter, the Spurs lost Danny Green early in the second quarter to a sprained finger. Minus two of their top wings, Leonard took over in the second half.

GRIZZLIES 108, HAWKS 101  
**MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP)** — Mike Conley had 21 points and 13 assists, and Zach Randolph added 18 points and 12 rebounds to lead Memphis over Atlan-



**San Antonio Spurs' Tony Parker, left, of France, shoots over Minnesota Timberwolves' Kevin Love (42) during the first half on an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Jan. 12, 2014, in San Antonio.**

Associated Press

ta. Paul Millsap scored 21 points to lead the Hawks, who had won two straight. It was only the Hawks' third loss to the Grizzlies in the past 15 games.

Memphis pulled away in the fourth quarter behind Conley, who tied a career best with 31 points in a victory over the Phoe-

nix Suns on Friday. Conley had eight points in the final quarter, including two free throws that gave the Grizzlies a 102-92 lead with 2:46 left.

Mike Miller also had eight points in the fourth quarter for the Grizzlies, including two 3-pointers. He finished with 15 points. □



# Video game players can check out Toyota concept

**DETROIT (AP)** — Video game players will get a chance to try out a virtual version of Toyota's new concept sports car that was unveiled in Detroit as a symbol of the automaker's design future, the company said Monday.

The Japanese automaker took the wraps off the FT-1 during press previews at the North American International Auto Show. The company said the "FT" in the red, rear-wheel-drive FT-1 stands for "Future Toyota" and the number represents "the ultimate."

Technical details of the vehicle aren't being released, but it's billed as a powerhouse. The prototype's engine is in the front, with a window in the hood to showcase what's underneath.

"This provocative concept truly captures the passion, excitement and energy of the Toyota we are evolving into," said Kevin Hunter,



The Toyota FT-1 concept is unveiled during media previews during the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, Monday, Jan. 13, 2014.

Associated Press

president of Toyota's Caltex Newport Beach, California, of the emotion and performance."

The vehicle's development started two years ago, and the car was devised first in the Sony PlayStation Gran Turismo game environment. Starting Tuesday, the automaker says FT-1 will be available as a downloadable vehicle for PlayStation 3 Gran Turismo 6.

With a free online update, an event featuring the FT-1 will be made available to players. With a bronze or better in the FT-1 challenge at Laguna Seca, players get the virtual car. Drivers also will be able to purchase the virtual vehicle without completing the event.

The physical car, meanwhile, represents a change in Toyota's product development strategy from heavy reliance on consumer studies with an aim at pleasing everyone and taking fewer risks. Hunter said. The car is designed to stir emotions and push limits with Toyota design. □

# Google says it will buy Nest Labs for \$3.2B



**NEW YORK (AP)** — Google will pay \$3.2 billion to buy Nest Labs, which develops high-tech versions of devices like thermostats and smoke detectors. The search engine operator was an early investor in Nest Labs. It says the company's Nest Learning Thermostat has been a "consistent best-seller." The thermostat, which retails for \$249, is designed to learn

how inhabitants like their homes to be heated and cooled. Once it learns the consumers' preferences, it automatically adjusts the temperature on its own. The Nest Protect alarm is intended to be less annoying than traditional alarms: when it detects rising smoke or carbon monoxide levels, it lights up yellow and speaks with human voice, giving con-

sumers an option to turn the device off if there is no emergency. They can stop the alert by waving an arm. The Nest Protect costs \$129 while an older smoke and carbon monoxide detector could cost \$50 to \$80. Nest Labs is based in Palo Alto, California. It was founded in 2010 by Tony Fadell, a gadget guru who helped design the iPod and original iPhone while working at

In this Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013, photo, Tony Fadell, Founder and CEO of Nest, poses for a portrait in the company's offices in Palo Alto, Calif.

Associated Press

## Groupon buys ideeli for \$43 million

**CHICAGO (AP)** -- As it looks to expand beyond the email daily deals business, Groupon has purchased online "flash-sale" retailer ideeli for \$43 million in cash. Ideeli sells men's and women's clothing and accessories and home decor items at a sale price for a limited time.

"Our customers have a

demonstrated appetite for these offers," Groupon CEO Eric Lefkowsky said in a statement Monday. Chicago-based Groupon cited the growth potential of ideeli's smartphone offerings and fashion brands.

Once known for daily-deal emails, Groupon has been trying to morph into a more

comprehensive destination for Internet bargain hunters. It is trying to train its millions of customers to regularly check for deals on their smartphones and tablets whenever they are about to buy something, rather than waiting for an offer to be emailed to them each day. □



# Stocks slump most in 2 months on Wall Street

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The stock market had its worst day of the year so far, extending a January slump. Stocks dropped Monday as falling oil prices pushed down energy stocks. The prospect of the Federal Reserve further cutting back on its economic stimulus also weighed on the market. Stocks are falling back this year after exceptional gains pushed the market to record levels in 2013. Investors' confidence that

be waiting for more news before committing, said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital. "At these high levels, people aren't going to step in" until they get more evidence of earnings growth or better economic news, Cardillo said. "Until that happens, who's going to step up to the plate?" The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 23.17 points, or 1.3 percent, to 1,819.20, the biggest decline for the index since Nov. 7. After surging almost

the biggest decliners, dropping 1.9 percent after the price of oil slumped close to its lowest in eight months. Exxon Mobil fell \$1.97, or 2 percent, to \$98.55. Oil fell 92 cents, or 1 percent, to \$91.80 a barrel as Libyan production continued to ramp up and the possibility of increased crude exports from Iran raised the prospects of excess supply on global markets. Investors are also worried about more cuts to the Federal Reserve's big eco-

\$10 billion a month to \$75 billion a month. The Fed's stimulus was a key driver of the market's rally last year. For many investors, the focus this week will be on company earnings. JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo and Bank of America are among the big banks that are scheduled report fourth-quarter earnings this week. Best Buy and General Electric are among the non-financial companies that will report earnings. "The market will take its direction from how well, or how poorly, corporate earnings season is unfolding," said Phil Orlando, chief equity market strategist at Federated Investors. "I think we're setting up for a positive surprise." Analysts expect fourth-quarter earnings to rise by 5.3 percent for S&P 500 companies, according to S&P Capital IQ. That would be a slight drop from the 5.7 percent rate in the previous quarter. Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.83 percent from 2.85 percent on Friday. Among other stocks making big moves:

— Lululemon Athletica fell \$9.90, or 16.6 percent, to \$49.70 after the high-end yoga apparel maker said sales have dropped off in January and its fourth-quarter results will be lower than expected.

— Scripps Networks slumped \$5.70, or 7 percent, to \$76.31 after the Wall Street Journal reported that talks about a merger between the cable network operator, which owns HGTV, and Discovery Communications had ended. □



**Trader Thomas Kay, left, and specialist Fabian Caceres on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market had its worst day of the year so far, extending a January slump. Stocks dropped Monday as falling oil prices pushed down energy stocks.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

the economy was recovering was jolted Friday by a weak employment report that showed far fewer jobs were added in December than economists had forecast. Unlike last year, investors have so far been reluctant to buy stocks when the market has slumped. Instead they appear to

30 percent last year, the S&P 500 index is down 1.6 percent in January. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 179.11 points, or 1.1 percent, to 16,257.94. The Nasdaq composite dropped 61.36 points, or 1.5 percent, to 4,113.30. All 10 sectors in the S&P 500 fell. Energy stocks were among

the economy was recovering was jolted Friday by a weak employment report that showed far fewer jobs were added in December than economists had forecast. Unlike last year, investors have so far been reluctant to buy stocks when the market has slumped. Instead they appear to

## Crude oil falls below \$92 on Iran nuke deal

**The Associated Press**

The price of oil fell below \$92 a barrel Monday as Libyan production continued to ramp up and the possibility of increased crude exports from Iran raised the prospects of excess supply on global markets. Benchmark U.S. oil for February delivery was down 92 cents to close at \$91.80 in New York. Brent crude, used to set prices for international varieties of crude used by many U.S. refineries, was down 50 cents to \$106.75 a barrel in London.

Iran and six world powers announced a plan Sunday to implement a six-month interim agreement on the Islamic Republic's nuclear program. Some economic sanctions against Iran will be eased while Tehran has agreed to limit its uranium enrichment and allow international inspectors access to its nuclear facilities.

The looser sanctions may make it easier for Iran's oil industry, which has seen its exports severely limited by the sanctions, to begin selling more crude after the deal takes effect Jan. 20, experts said. "Up to 1 million barrels of Iranian oil per day could become available," said analysts at Commerzbank in Frankfurt in a note to clients. "Unless oil production was cut elsewhere, this would give rise to a considerable oversupply on the oil market, which would weigh on prices." But some analysts say it is the rebound in Libyan production that is having a more important effect on near-term oil prices. Production has increased to about 650,000 barrels per day, the country's oil minister said Sunday. That's still less than half than the nation produced during a recent peak in 2012, but it's much higher than the low of 200,000 barrels per day the country was producing late last year.

If Libya can return to full production, global oil prices could slide further. "We suspect that this will have a larger impact on prices in the coming months than the growing signs of detente between Iran and the West," wrote Julian Jessop, head of commodities research at Capital Economics. □

## PayPal testing easier checkout for online shoppers

**NEW YORK (AP)** — EBay's payments service PayPal has redesigned its online checkout process to let shoppers complete their payment on merchants' websites, rather than go to a separate PayPal site. Simplifying the checkout process — and having shoppers stay on an e-commerce site rather than

click over to a separate PayPal page — means they are more likely to complete the transaction. That could also mean more people will use PayPal. PayPal said Monday that it is testing out the new checkout process with a few merchants and will make it available to large businesses in the first half

of this year. Medium- and small-size businesses will also be able to use it down the line. In addition, PayPal said it will make its "payment code" feature available to merchants that accept Discover cards or use Micro payments systems, starting in February. The feature lets shoppers pay

for purchases using their smartphones, using either a four-digit code or a QR-code, which is a newer version of the classic bar code. PayPal says it's a payment option at 1.9 million physical stores and other sellers in the U.S. Shares of eBay Inc. rose 49 cents to \$52.65 in afternoon trading. □



# Fiat-Chrysler CEO to stay at least through 2016

**TOM KRISHER**  
**AP Auto Writer**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Sergio Marchionne will lead a combined Chrysler and Fiat at least for three more years. But he's not answering the sensitive question of where that company will be based. Fiat Chairman John Elkann said Monday that Marchionne will stay CEO at least through 2016. Elkann and Marchionne spoke to reporters after the

unveiling of a new midsize Chrysler car at the Detroit auto show.

Italian automaker Fiat SpA announced Jan. 1 that it reached a deal to acquire the remaining shares of Chrysler from a union trust fund for \$3.65 billion. Fiat had previously owned 58.5 percent of the U.S. automaker.

Marchionne said Fiat's board will discuss where to locate the newly merged

company when it meets on Jan. 29. Fiat SpA is headquartered in Turin, Italy, while Chrysler is in Auburn Hills, Michigan.

Where to place the corporate headquarters is a major decision — and a sensitive topic. Fiat got control of Chrysler after the U.S. government bailed the company out of bankruptcy protection. But Fiat is Italy's largest private employer and a source of na-

tional pride, so moving the headquarters out of the country would be difficult. A combined Fiat-Chrysler is the world's seventh-largest automaker, with 4.4 million sales last year, Marchionne said.

Marchionne, 61, who spends much of his life on a corporate jet shuttling between Italy and Michigan, said previously that he planned to retire around 2015 or 2016. The new

deal with Elkann extends that time frame somewhat. Marchionne expects his eventual successor to come from his management committee.

Marchionne said the company will have to have a legal home, and the U.S. "would have a large claim" because it's a bigger financial center. But he also hinted that the combined company would have multiple locations. □

# Hybrid offers \$55M for bankrupt Fisker in bid war

**RANDALL CHASE**  
**AP Business Writer**

**WILMINGTON, Delaware (AP)** — Hybrid Technology,

led by Hong Kong billionaire Richard Li, has bid \$55 million for Fisker Automotive's assets, just days after a bankruptcy judge in Delaware rejected Hybrid's plan to take over the failed electric-vehicle maker in a private sale.

Hybrid said in court papers Monday that it's offering \$30 million in cash and would cancel \$25 million in debt that Fisker owes Hybrid as its senior secured lender. Hybrid also promised that at least \$5.5 million of the cash portion will go to Fisker's unsecured creditors if they switch to backing Hybrid instead of rival suitor Wanxiang Group as the so-called "stalking horse bidder" in the auction.

Hybrid also reversed its position on buying the former General Motors site in Wilmington, Delaware, where Fisker had planned



**This 2010 photo shows the Fisker Automotive's Fisker Karma, a sports luxury plug-in hybrid car at the 2010 Los Angeles Auto Show in Los Angeles. Hybrid Technology, led by Hong Kong billionaire Richard Li, has offered \$55 million in an auction of Fisker Automotive's assets, just days after a bankruptcy judge in Delaware rejected Hybrid's plan to take over the failed electric-vehicle manufacturer in a private sale.**

(AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes)

to make cars. Previously it said it had no interest in building cars in the state, but Hybrid spokeswoman Megan Grant said in an email Monday that Hybrid plans to use the Delaware

plant to "meet consumer demand and address market conditions."

Wanxiang has said it would continue developing and designing a second-generation line of Fisker vehicles,

and make them at the shuttered GM plant once the cars were ready for mass production in large volumes. Gov. Jack Markell, whose administration provided \$20 million in loans

and grants to Fisker as an incentive to build cars in Delaware, has supported efforts that might lead to vehicle production resuming at the plant. A Markell spokeswoman had no immediate comment on Hybrid's latest proposal.

California-based Fisker filed for bankruptcy protection in November. The move came after the company drew \$192 million on the Obama administration's \$529 million green-energy loan before DOE officials suspended funding in 2011. Federal officials suspended the loans after Fisker failed to meet several sales and production milestones for its \$100,000 Karma luxury car. The Karma's problems included vehicle fires and recalls, problems with battery packs, the bankruptcy of Fisker's primary battery supplier A123 Systems, and inventory losses from Superstorm Sandy, which destroyed hundreds of vehicles at a port in New Jersey. □

# BMW sets sales record, tops German luxury rivals

**DAVID McHUGH**  
**AP Business Writer**

**FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)** — Luxury carmaker BMW AG has posted record sales for 2013, keeping its No. 1 spot in the market for high-priced cars against its German competitors Audi and Mercedes.

The Munich-based company said Monday it sold 1.66 million vehicles under the BMW brand, 7.5 percent more than last year.

The figure was boosted by strong sales of the brand's mainstay 3-series sedan and X1 small SUV as well as by rising demand in China and the United States. Sales of the 3-series rose 23 percent.

Volkswagen AG's Audi division last week reported sales of 1.57 million last year and Daimler AG's Mercedes-Benz brand came in at 1.46 million. The three carmakers are pillars of Germany's

export-focused economy and have reaped fat earnings selling luxury cars and SUVs — which earn higher profits per vehicle than mass-market vehicles — in the United States and in emerging markets, led by China.

The competition among the three heats up Monday at the start of the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, where Mercedes is introducing a

new version of its C-Class that will compete with the BMW 3-series. BMW is showing off its new 2-series small sports coupe.

BMW sales chief Ian Robertson credited the company's model lineup and "balanced sales distribution across all continents." He forecast that "despite difficult conditions in many markets," the company would increase sales yet again in 2014.

BMW also increased sales including its other brands, the compact car line MINI and superluxury Rolls-Royce, by 6.4 percent to 1.96 million vehicles. Rolls-Royce increased its unit sales by 1.5 percent to 3,630 as the new Wraith model — a so-called "fast-back" with sloping roofline and striking two-tone paint options — saw its first deliveries to customers in the fourth quarter. □



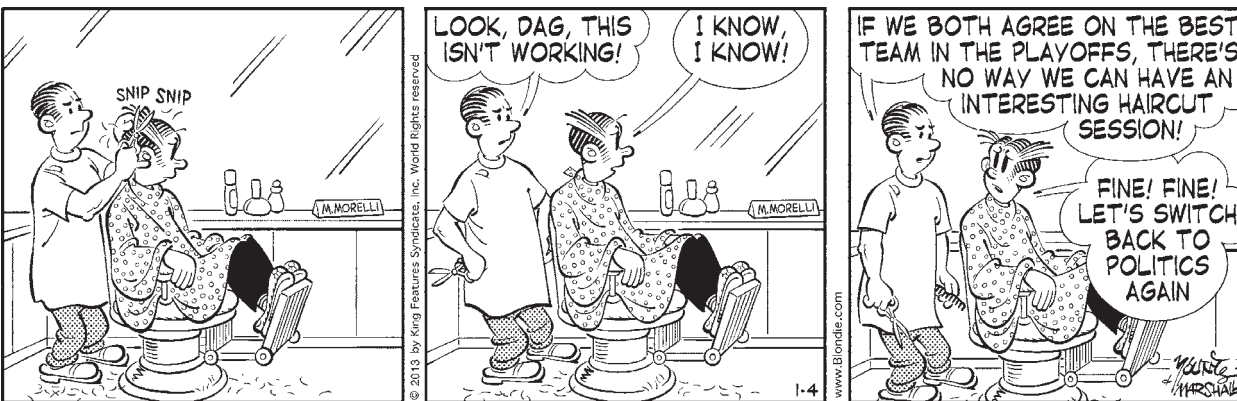
## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



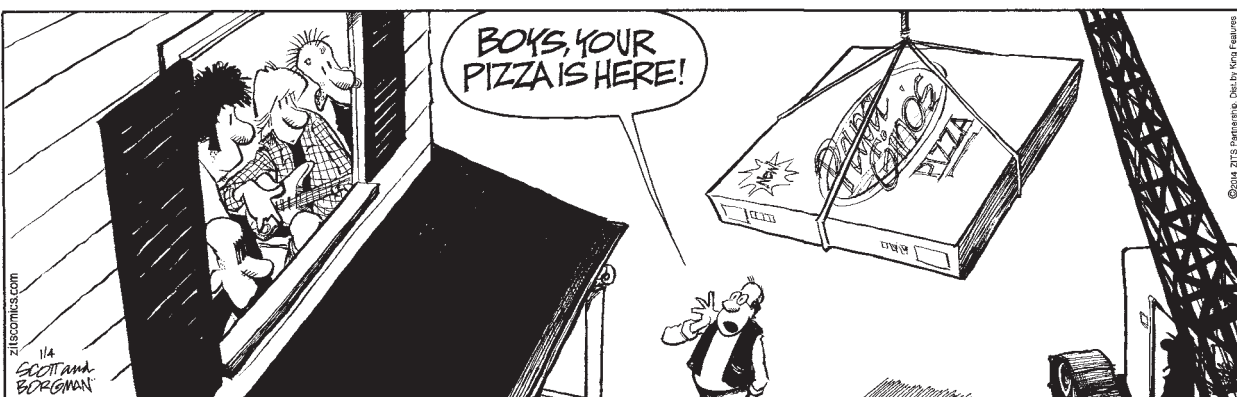
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

	7				4		
5				9			
			3	2	5		9
		6				5	8
		2				9	
	9	7				3	
6			8	5	1		
			4				1
		5				2	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

©2014 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	7	9	1	4	5	6	3	2
3	5	1	9	6	2	7	4	8
2	6	4	7	3	8	1	9	5
4	8	5	3	9	1	2	7	6
1	2	7	6	8	4	3	5	9
6	9	3	2	5	7	4	8	1
5	1	8	4	2	3	9	6	7
7	4	6	5	1	9	8	2	3
9	3	2	8	7	6	5	1	4

## ACROSS

- Rib or femur
- Blazing
- Take a break
- High point
- Obama's VP
- "...and they lived happily after."
- Hold on to
- German sub
- Contemptible
- Eternal
- Filmmaker Cecil B. ...
- Stein contents
- Danger
- Assert one's right to
- Mayo container
- Bursting at the ...; very full
- Choir selection
- Broadcast
- Inlet between Asia and Africa
- Tax-deferred retirement acct.
- Dispute settler
- Actor Holbrook
- Get comfy
- Assist
- Satan's domain
- Valuable item
- That woman
- Finicky
- Marathons
- Wicked
- Mixed with a spoon
- Interferes
- Streambed
- Fencing sword
- Opera box
- Wheel rod
- Lopsided
- Border
- Coffin platform
- Tenants' payments
- Writing table

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14					15						16				
17					18						19				
20				21				22		23					
			24				25								
26	27	28				29				30		31	32	33	
34					35				36						
37					38				39				40		
41				42				43				44			
45						46				47					
				48		49				50					
51	52	53							54				55	56	57
58					59		60				61				
62					63							64			
65					66						67				

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/4/14

## Friday's Puzzle Solved

GERM	MALTA	GLAD
OAHU	AGAIN	YOGI
BRIM	DONNY	BROOK
INN	MANE	RANGE
ENEMY	CAT	
ASSUME	JOSEPH	
LOTTO	PLEAS	RIP
PROS	FLEET	DELI
SEN	DROOP	RIFLE
REVIEW	DURESS	
IVE	PETER	
DITTO	SHAH	ELS
IRRATIONAL	SNIP	
COOL	RAISE	ACME
ENDS	AFTER	DEAD

(c) 2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC  
All Rights Reserved.

1/4/14

## DOWN

- Cake recipe verb
- Not locked
- "I say more?"

- Classic gift for Father's Day
- Jack Russell ...; popular dog
- Crowded together
- Calm or quiet
- Passing craze
- Actor Romero

- Lahr and Parks
- Q-tip, for one
- Cab
- Not working
- Dissolve
- Ore deposit
- Breakfast order
- Look for
- Container



## CA: Octomom charged with welfare fraud

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Nadya Suleman, who gained fame as "Octomom" after giving birth to eight babies, has been charged with welfare fraud after failing to report \$30,000 in earnings while she collected public assistance, authorities said Monday. Suleman, whose real name is Natalie Denise Suleman, was ordered to appear in court on Friday, the Los Angeles County district attorney's office said in a statement. She was not immediately taken into custody. Suleman was charged Jan. 6 with one count of aid by misrepresentation and two counts of perjury by false application. If convicted, she could face up to five years and eight months in jail. Since their birth, the single mother has tried to support her huge family in a variety of ways, including endorsing birth control for pets, making a pornographic video, posing for semi-nude photo shoots and participating in celebrity boxing matches. Last year she spent several weeks in a rehabilitation center for what her former publicist said was anxiety, exhaustion and stress. Efforts to reach Suleman for comment through recent associates were not immediately successful. There is no telephone listing for her in Orange, where she most recently lived. Suleman, 38, was already the mother of six children when she gave birth to octuplets at a California hospital on Jan. 26, 2009. All 14 of her children were conceived through in vitro fertility treatments. As they approach their fifth birthdays, her octuplets are the world's longest-surviving set. Suleman has shielded them from much media attention, but occasional video and print articles seem to indicate the children are growing up healthy, even though they were born nine weeks premature. The smallest of the eight, who weighed less than 2 pounds at birth, didn't go home from the hospital for nearly three months. Suleman's other six children range in age from 7 to 12 and include one set of twins. One of the older children is autistic. □

# Classifieds

## RED/WEEK

### Resales

#### Aruba Divi Phoenix

week 1 Room #672 Pent house duplex ocean front  
34 weeks remain on contract  
Price: \$45,000  
info: (297)562-0712  
[johnnypaesch@gmail.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@gmail.com)

201099

## RED/RE-SALE

### Eagle Beach Front

Amsterdam Manor  
52 weeks 2 bedr, 2 bath  
\$450K  
info: (297)562-0712  
[johnnypaesch@gmail.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@gmail.com)

201099

## RED/WEEK

### Resales

#### La Cabana Beach Resort

week 2 Room #202 E.O.F.  
2 br, 2 bath Price \$22000  
info: (297)562-0712  
[johnnypaesch@gmail.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@gmail.com)

201099

## FREE LISTING!

### FREE INFORMATION

#### Time share-Resales

28 years experience  
info: (297)562-0712  
[johnnypaesch@gmail.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@gmail.com)

201099

## RED/WEEK

### Resales

#### Occidental Grand

Studio wk 2/17 \$10K  
Jr Suite wk 2/17 \$14K  
1 Br dlx Wk 2/17 \$16K  
2 Br O. front wk 2/17 \$30K  
3 Br O. front Wk 2/17 \$40K  
All of the above are non mandatory all inclusive optional all inclusive ocean  
info: (297)562-0712  
[johnnypaesch@gmail.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@gmail.com)

201099

## RED/WEEK

### Resales

#### Marriott Surf Club

3x2Br garden view Platinum \$15,000 each  
Marriott Ocean Club  
1 Br ocean front Platinum \$29,000  
info: (297)562-0712  
[johnnypaesch@gmail.com](mailto:johnnypaesch@gmail.com)

201099

## TIMESHARE FOR SALE

### Casa del Mar

wk 3 Room 1511  
\$20,000  
e-mail: joansmo25@yahoo.com

201072

## FOR SALE

### Casa del Mar

Rm. 1111, Presidential Suite  
wks. 1&2 - \$15,000 per wk.  
Rm. 1117 Presidential Suite  
wks 3&4-\$15,000 wk.  
contact (Aruba) 560-1288  
until 1/31/14  
(USA) 203-483-5700  
E-mail: costelli@snet.net

200574



### Marriott Aruba Surf Club

Platinum Season  
Oceanview \$16000  
Oceanside \$17500  
Oceanfront \$27500  
3 BEDRM \$27000  
Plat Plus Holiday 51  
OV -\$42k  
Plat Plus NY 52 OV- \$49k  
GOLD Season  
OS \$10k OV \$9500  
Oceanfront \$17k  
3 BEDRM OV \$17,000

### Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

Platinum 2B OV \$18k  
Oceanfront PLAT \$29k  
Platinum 1B OV \$11,500  
Gold season 2B OV \$9,000  
Oceanfront 2B \$14,500  
1B Oceanfront \$8,500

### La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club

\*\*Preferred Resale Company\*\*  
ALL summer & fall weeks starting at \$3k  
Studio, 1Bdrm & 2Bdrm available.  
Costa Linda & Playa Linda inventory  
Beach Villas at Divi Phoenix  
Divi Golf Villas

### We are the #1 Rental Timeshare agent for Aruba!

We also RENT Aruba weeks for owners.  
Contact us to BUY, SELL or RENT any timeshare property.

**888-888-2204 Ext 101**  
**321-206-6293 Ext 101**  
**321-250-7164 Fax**

**Fax Website:**  
**www.concierge Realty.com**

## FOR SALE

### Condo in Gold Coast

Everything's included in this 2 Br 2 1/2 bath unit check it out now at [www.arubarental.info](http://www.arubarental.info) or call 562-0735 free pick up

200574

## FOR SALE -RENT

### Timeshare Sale-Rent Paradise Villas

Wk 2 Studio Jan 12 Rent \$660  
Sale \$2600 also Divi Resort Studios from 3/15 to 12/13 2014  
\$3100 or Rent \$665,  
one Br \$3400 or Rent \$765  
E-mail: [rmwjmw@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmw@aol.com)  
Phone: 508-651-0016

200579

## FOR SALE

### Timeshare For sale

#### Renaissance Aruba Beach Resort

week # 2, Unit #2309  
Pool and Ocean Views  
(508) 224-7575 (USA)  
e-mail: odomirok@msn.com

201066

## FOR SALE BY OWNER

### Tropicana Aruba-Renovated Units

2 Bedroom Condo Unit 2544  
Weeks 1,2,3,4 sun-sun  
2 Bedroom Condo Unit 3544  
Weeks 5,6,7sun-sun  
3 Bedroom Condo Unit 3548  
Week 8 sun-sun

### Mini enhanced rooms

1 bedroom first floor unit 1570  
weeks 7 & 8 fri-fri  
2 bedroom first floor unit 1566  
weeks 5 & 6 fri-fri  
1 bedroom 5th floor unit 5562  
week 17  
Email: [cljhn@aol.com](mailto:cljhn@aol.com)  
Tel: 297-566-4608

201079

## TIMESHARE FOR SALE

### Casa del Mar

wk 2 ocean front  
Room 1224...25K  
wk 3 ocean, pool view Room 1318...20K  
e-mail: lemme Sell@aol.com

201071

## FOR SALE

### Paradise Beach Villas

For Sale week 2 & 4  
Week 2 \$6000 1 bedr  
pool/ocean view  
Week 4 \$8500 1 bdr  
Call Room 207-after January 18  
Call 920-788-2750

201098



## DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad



Dr. Cayama

## EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

## PHARMACY

O'STAD: Paradera Tel: 588-6638  
S. NICOLAS: Seroe Preto Tel: 584-4833

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

## CRUISESHIP

### Jan. 14 Celebrity Eclipse

Aruba Aiport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

## FOUNDATION

### FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440  
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,  
Anonymity guaranteed

## FUNDACION

### Anti-Droga

Aruba  
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

## FUNDACION

### Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

### Diabetic Foundation

### Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

### Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

### Foundation Amor

### pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

### Women in Difficulties

### Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

### Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002



# India scrambles to save tigers from deadly virus

**KATY DAIGLE**

**AP Environment Writer**

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — India is scrambling to protect its beleaguered tiger population after several big cats tested positive for a virus common among dogs but deadly to other carnivores, experts said.

In the last year, canine distemper virus has killed at least four tigers and several other animals across northern and eastern India, according to Rajesh Gopal of the government's National Tiger Conservation Authority.

The revelation is bad news for wild tigers — already endangered by rampant poaching and shrinking habitat as India undergoes breakneck development to accommodate the staggering growth of its 1.2 billion people. That same economic development and population growth means more people — and more dogs — are coming even closer to wildlife.

India will now test every tiger carcass it finds for the virus, Gopal said, while authorities also consider a massive campaign to vaccinate dogs against canine distemper.

"We cannot vaccinate every dog, of course. But even 50 percent of dogs in the zones around sanctuaries would help," Gopal said. He did not give details of the plans being considered. There is no vaccine for big cats.

The cases being found across such a huge swath of India, however, suggests the disease could already be running in the wild, experts said, though they agree much more research is needed.

"These are very disturbing finds," said Dr. A.K. Sharma, head scientist at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, which performed the canine distemper lab tests. "The cases were quite distant from each other, and the latest was an area where there are no dogs. So it appears the virus is spreading."

Since two cubs tested positive in a zoo in the Bihar



**In this Friday, Jan. 10, 2014 photo, a Royal Bengal tiger walks inside its enclosure at Alipore Zoological Garden in Kolkata, India.**

**Associated Press**

state capital of Patna a year ago, Sharma and his colleagues have found at least four more cases — a red panda in the northeast state of Manipur, a wild tiger in West Bengal, a zoo lion in Darjeeling and last month a wild tiger in the Dudhwa Tiger reserve in Uttar Pradesh.

"In the last case, forest guards said they saw the animal in a confused state before it died," he said.

Experts said there are likely more undetected cases, since testing for canine distemper has not been routine and few animals that die in the wild are ever found.

Canine distemper virus, a close relative of measles, is associated mostly with domestic dogs though it has infected — and ravaged — other carnivore populations.

It brought the U.S. black-footed ferret to the brink of extinction in the late 1970s. In Tanzania in 1994, an epidemic likely introduced by tourists' dogs wiped out at least a third of the 3,000-strong African lion population in Serengeti National Park.

The possibility of a disease like canine distemper hitting the world's last population of wild Asiatic lions was a major consideration in last year's Indian Supreme

Court's decision ordering Gujarat state to safeguard the species by transferring some lions to a second, far-away sanctuary.

While dogs can often recover from the disease, other animals including tigers, lions and leopards suffer fever, seizures and delirium before they die. There is no known cure.

Some experts said it was pointless to try to limit the

disease, given how closely millions of Indians live alongside wildlife. Instead, the country should focus on other, proven threats like poaching, prey loss to hunting and human encroachment into forests.

"Thinking we can control this is totally unrealistic. We have to live with it now, and assess whether it's really serious yet," said Ullas Karanth, the Bangalore-

based Asian science director of Wildlife Conservation Society. "What South Africa has done, quarantining huge areas and creating disease-free spaces in the wild, is not feasible here."

India is home to more than half of the world's estimated 3,200 tigers. An ongoing tiger census should give an updated count in a year. Despite dozens of tiger reserves in place, their numbers have sunk from an estimated 5,000-7,000 in the 1990s, when their habitat was more than twice as large.

Illegal poaching remains a stubborn and serious danger, with tiger parts fetching high black market prices due to demand driven by traditional Chinese medicine practitioners. Deforestation and urban growth, meanwhile, bring the cats ever-closer to human settlements — and into conflict with villagers who will hunt any wild animals near their communities or livestock.

That tigers may now face another threat from disease is alarming, said Thopie Gopal, an Indian expert in animal emerging infectious diseases who was not involved in the test cases. □

## U.S. carbon pollution up 2 percent in 2013

**By MATTHEW DALY**

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** -- Energy-related carbon dioxide pollution grew by 2 percent last year after declining several years in a row, a government report said Monday. The increase was largely due to a small boost in coal consumption by the electric power industry, according to the study by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

American cars and factories spewed 5.38 billion tons of carbon dioxide in 2013, up from 5.27 billion in 2012, the report said. Carbon dioxide is the chief man-made global warming gas. Coal, long the dominant source for U.S. electricity, has regained some market share in recent months as natural gas prices have increased following historic

lows in 2012. Coal generated about 39 percent of the nation's electricity in October, compared with 28 percent for natural gas, the EIA said. Coal supplied about 37 percent of U.S. electricity in 2012, with natural gas at 30 percent.

Even with the uptick, overall U.S. carbon emissions remained 10 percent below 2005 levels, more than half the reduction needed to achieve President Barack Obama's goal of reducing carbon emissions by 17 percent from 2005 levels by 2020.

Obama has launched a major second-term drive to combat climate change, bypassing Congress as he imposes first-ever limits on carbon pollution from new and existing power plants. Forty percent of U.S. carbon emissions, and one-

third of greenhouse gases overall, come from electric power plants, according to the EIA.

Under Obama's plan, the Environmental Protection Agency will propose guidance for states to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from future power plants, as well as those already in existence, to reshape where Americans get electricity. The plan is intended to help move the United States from a coal-dependent past into a future fired by cleaner sources of energy such as wind and solar power, nuclear energy and natural gas.

The EPA says the plan would not raise the price of electricity or cause major disruptions to the U.S. economy, a claim the coal industry and its allies in Congress dispute. □





In this May 19, 2013 file photo, Prince performs at the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena, in Las Vegas. Associated Press

## Prince to appear on 'New Girl' after Super Bowl

**PASADENA, California (AP)** — Prince is making a guest appearance on the comedy "New Girl" during Fox's post-Super Bowl party. In an episode of the show that will air directly after the big game next month, Zooey Deschanel's character

is invited to a mansion party hosted by Prince — and her friends are determined to crash. The Super Bowl is traditionally the most-watched television event of the year, so the time slots after it are considered prime real estate. □

## Stars of 'The Following' admit to nightmares

**PASADENA, California (AP)** — The two stars of Fox's creepy thriller "The Following" acknowledge that their show gives them nightmares. Kevin Bacon plays former FBI agent Ryan Hardy, who's on the trail of a sadistic serial killer played by James Purefoy in the series, which attracted negative attention for its violence in its premiere season last year but also had strong

ratings. It returns for its second season on Sunday. Bacon and Purefoy both said Monday the characters stick with them after work. Purefoy said playing a character that not only celebrates death but finds great beauty in it brings fretful nights. Jessica Stroup, who is new to the series, says she can sleep well, but she's watching her surroundings more carefully while awake. □

## '24' returns in May with 12-episode run on Fox

**BETH HARRIS Associated Press PASADENA, California (AP)** — Jack Bauer is back, and he's on the run in London. Kiefer Sutherland returns as the intrepid counter-terrorist in a 12-episode run of "24: Live Another Day," debuting with a two-hour show May 5 on Fox. It will take up its regular one-hour slot starting May 12. "I'm about as anxious and wound up as I've been in a long time," Sutherland said Monday at the Television Critics Association winter meeting.

He returns to a character he played for eight seasons, from 2001 to 2010. "There's a great impetus for all of us to create something new with the show," Sutherland said. The show will be set and shot in London and retain the real-time format with split screens and interwoven story lines. It picks up four years after the events of "24's" final season, with Bauer now a fugitive being hunted by the CIA. "Things will be blowing up — cars, double decker buses, things like that," said



Mary Lynn Rajsakub, left, and Kiefer Sutherland take part on the panel for "24: Live Another Day" at the FOX Winter 2014 TCA, on Monday, Jan. 13, 2014, at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena, Calif. Associated Press

Sutherland, who was born in London. "I'm sure we'll be hated by a large portion of London for snarling up their traffic here and there, and for that I apologize in advance." Also back from the original series are Mary Lynn Rajsakub, Kim Raver and William Devane. Several

newcomers have joined the cast, including Oscar nominee Judy Davis and Yvonne Strahovski of "Dexter." Rajsakub, who plays Chloe, said she closely followed Internet speculation about the series return and waited eagerly to find out whether she'd be included. □

## Producers: 'American Idol' making changes



From left, Host Ryan Seacrest, and Judges Keith Urban, Jennifer Lopez, and Harry Connick Jr. are seen during the panel of "American Idol" at the FOX Winter 2014 TCA, on Monday, Jan. 13, 2014, at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena, Calif. Associated Press

**LYNN ELBER AP Television Writer PASADENA, California (AP)**

— The producers of "American Idol" say the show's new season includes

changes to freshen it, including expanded song choices for contestants. Executive producer Per Blankens said Monday that after tending toward a fair amount of golden oldies, the show's song list will add more current tunes that the young contestants can relate to. Executive producer Trish Kinane says former judge Randy Jackson's new role will include leading a workshop that helps contestants deal with vocal and other challenges. The talent contest also will introduce a "rush week" that precedes the Holly-



# What's on YouTube? 'YouTube Nation' lets you know

**FRAZIER MOORE**

**AP Television Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — How do you cope with an exploding world of YouTube video? Starting Tuesday, you can get help by visiting "YouTube Nation."

The video-sharing website has teamed with DreamWorks Animation to create this daily highlight reel of brand-new, trending and yet-to-be-discovered content.

It will serve as a handy sampler, says DreamWorks Animation CEO Jeffrey Katzenberg. "In a sea of the infinite, this is a lighthouse." Every minute, some 100 hours of new video content is uploaded to YouTube. Now a task force of "YouTube Nation" curators will be plowing through this cache to identify not only what's most popular, but also what's poised to go viral with YouTube consumers.

"Our choices aren't driven purely by algorithms and analytics," says Katzenberg. "You don't want to just know what's the most seen. What you really want to know is: What's GOING to be the most seen?"

The five-minute "YouTube



This undated image released by YouTube Nation shows host Jacob Soboroff on the set of "YouTube Nation." The five-minute "YouTube Nation" program will post weekdays at 9 p.m. Eastern Time/6 p.m. Pacific Time starting Tuesday, Jan 14, 2014.

**Associated Press**

Nation" program will post weekdays at 9 p.m. Eastern Time/6 p.m. Pacific Time starting Tuesday. It's hosted by Jacob Soboroff (from HuffPost Live, the streaming network of The Huffington Post, and Pivot TV's "TakePart Live").

But each episode will be more than a digital tip sheet. It will come

equipped with links and playlists that enable the user to delve fully into the video being recommended.

"For every five minutes of our show," says Katzenberg, "we'll have an hour or more of content."

"YouTube Nation" is geared chiefly to 18-to-30-year-olds and "casual viewers who

would like to be heavier users," he says.

But Robert Kyncl, YouTube's head of content and business operations, says, "We look at 'YouTube Nation' as a way to promote the great breadth of content on YouTube in an easily digestible way for anyone — and that's the key word, 'anyone.'"

The advertiser-supported "YouTube Nation" is the first daily series produced by DreamWorks Animation and marks the first use of the YouTube brand for a daily series.

The project, an equal partnership of the two companies, has been in the works for a year, with a current staff totaling 50.

But that's just the beginning, says Katzenberg. Within two months, a second daily edition of the show will be added to the mix, posting at 12 noon Eastern/9 a.m. Pacific.

Then, mid-year, specialization will be introduced with a dozen or so "vertical" guides such as "YTN Sports," "YTN News" and "YTN Music" — more than a dozen in all, says Katzenberg.

The mission is to bring to a waiting audience video that otherwise might never be found, discovered and presented by YouTube insiders.

"We'll answer the question, 'Can you tell me what's the most interesting, cool stuff?'" says Katzenberg. "I don't want to have to learn about it on 'Good Morning America.'" □

# After online acclaim 'The Bunker' goes to print



This image released by Oni Press shows the cover of "The Bunker".

**Associated Press**

**MATT MOORE**

**Associated Press**

Five people freshly graduated from college, and all on paths that will lead to apocalypse for the world.

It's not what most would expect as they prepare for their own futures but, said writer Joshua Hale Fialkov, it's not every day five friends chance upon a mysterious bunker with warnings about a devastating future to come if ways are not changed and different roads taken.

Such is the premise of "The Bunker" by Fialkov and artist Joe Infurnari, whose work on the book has seen its popularity grow so much that they are jumping the digital divide to offer it in print through Oni Press.

Fialkov says the progression is natural given that there is a prestige to having a book sold in shops, but he says it's about bringing an intriguing story to a new audience, too.

"We're doing it backwards," said Fialkov though he was quick to add that first publishing the book digitally through Comixology and through its own website helped garner fans and critical accolades, as well as interest from television.

"It's a book that Joe and I decided we wanted to do, a book entirely outside of the system," Fialkov said, noting that it paralleled, in a sense, their own hopes in "knowing what your destiny is."

With the success of the title digitally — five chapters are online at \$1.99 apiece now — publishers expressed interest. Oni was picked because of its reputation for titles like the Scott Pilgrim books, "Whiteout" and "Queen and Country," Fialkov said.

The 48-page first issue is set for release by Oni Press Feb. 12, collecting all the previously-released digital chapters in full color and, in some cases, redrawn to fit the size of a standard comic book.

"When I got back into comics, prior to making them, Oni books were the ones I was always drawn to," Fialkov said. "Their sensibility really matches what I am into." □



## Imagining US President Chris Christie



GAIL COLLINS  
© 2014 New York Times

Let us count the ways that this week's traffic-jam scandal is actually good for Chris Christie's presidential prospects.

First of all, he proved that he could definitely handle an international crisis that required apologizing when the United States did something really stupid. Like - let's see. What if the secretary of commerce, in a fit of pique over a Chinese official's refusal to endorse American seafood products, sent a flotilla of cargo planes to dump tons of surplus mackerel on a Beijing highway? President Christie would be terrific! He could apologize profusely while making it clear that his administration actually had nothing to do with the incident whatsoever and, in fact, was itself a pathetic victim of betrayal by a double agent for the fish industry. And Christie has stamina! On Thursday, he held a press conference regarding the George Washington Bridge traffic-jam fiasco and talked for nearly two hours. Historian Michael Beschloss says he can't think of any actual president who ever went on that long. It was even longer than the longest presidential inaugural address, which involved an hour and three-quarters of William Henry Harrison.

Of course, Harrison died one month into office. But he did not have a personal trainer, and Chris Christie does. I must admit that I had a mixed reaction to the revelation about the trainer. Good for him on the healthy life front. But there really was something seductive about the idea of a chief executive without a physical fitness regimen. Four years bereft of jogging photo-ops or anecdotes from the pickup games in the White House gym.

Anyhow, there are lots of other ways Christie's press conference could be viewed as presidential. For instance, Richard Nixon had "I am not a crook." Chris Christie gave us "I am not a bully."

Also, during Christie's press conference, he referred to "mistakes" 18 times. He seemed to be channeling Ronald Reagan, who famously said "mistakes were made" after his administration got caught secretly helping arm rebels in Central America with money made from selling weapons to Iran.

OK, that was a bigger mistake. Although having associates who create a four-day traffic jam on the world's busiest bridge out of

apparent political pique isn't exactly a multiplication error.

Christie expressed confidence that the voters would conclude: "Mistakes were made; the governor had nothing to do with that, but he's taking responsibility for it." Here we have an echo of Harry Truman's announcement that "the buck stops here." However, Christie took the more modern approach, which is to make it clear that while you're responsible, you are totally not at fault. The buck that stopped at Christie's desk was not his buck, just an errant piece of currency that wound up in the office because of treacherous fools over whom he had no actual control whatsoever.

So far, so good.

Among the critical qualities for a modern president is the ability to instantly cut off old friends and cast them adrift if they become political baggage. Maybe you remember the way Bill Clinton dumped his law school pal Lani Guinier when her nomination to lead the Justice Department's civil rights division ran into trouble.

Or maybe you have no memory of that whatsoever. It doesn't matter, because Christie's example is much better.

The central figure in the traffic-jam scandal is a guy named David Wildstein, who is frequently described as a youthful chum of the governor's. The two were at high school together, and Wildstein later became mayor of Christie's hometown.

Asked about Wildstein - who spent Thursday pleading the Fifth at a legislative hearing - Christie expressed joy at having the opportunity to clear up the true parameters of their relationship. "David and I were not friends in high school. ... We didn't travel in the same circles in high school," he said coolly. "You know, I was the class president and athlete. I don't know what David was doing during that period of time." Ouch.

The most fascinating part of the governor's talkathon was his explanation of what he did when he discovered - just as he was toweling down from a workout - that his deputy chief of staff had been involved in creating the bridge crisis.

Christie claimed he swiftly axed said aide, wasting no time in attempting to find out why she had done it, who she had conspired with or why she had imagined he would think it was a good idea.

"I'm telling you that when I ask for an answer from a member of my staff and they lie ... they're gone. So I never had to get to the conduct, the underlying conduct," he said. What do you think about that, people? Andrew Jackson-like decisiveness? Seems more like a really eerie lack of curiosity. But then we have had presidents who were less inquisitive than a sidewalk. Look at George W. Bush. And he got elected twice. □



## The War Over Poverty



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2014 New York Times

Fifty years have passed since Lyndon Johnson declared war on poverty. And a funny thing happened on the way to this anniversary. Suddenly, or so it seems, progressives have stopped apologizing for their efforts on behalf of the poor and have started trumpeting them instead. And conservatives find themselves on the defensive.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. For a long time, everyone knew - or, more accurately, "knew" - that the war on poverty had been an abject failure. And they knew why: It was the fault of the poor themselves. But what everyone knew wasn't true, and the public seems to have caught on.

The narrative went like this: Anti-poverty programs hadn't actually reduced poverty, because poverty in America was basically a social problem - a problem of broken families, crime and a culture of dependence that was only reinforced by government aid. And because this narrative was so widely accepted, bashing the poor was good politics, enthusiastically embraced by Republicans and some Democrats, too.

Yet this view of poverty, which may have had some truth to it in the 1970s, bears no resemblance to anything that has happened since.

For one thing, the war on poverty has, in fact, achieved quite a lot. It's true that the standard measure of poverty hasn't fallen

much. But this measure doesn't include the value of crucial public programs like food stamps and the earned-income tax credit. Once these programs are taken into account, the data show a significant decline in poverty, and a much larger decline in extreme poverty. Other evidence also points to a big improvement in the lives of America's poor: Lower-income Americans are much healthier and better-nourished than they were in the 1960s.

Furthermore, there is strong evidence that anti-poverty programs have long-term benefits, both to their recipients and to the nation as a whole. For example, children who had access to food stamps were healthier and had higher incomes in later life than people who didn't.

And if progress against poverty has nonetheless been disappointingly slow - which it has - blame rests not with the poor but with a changing labor market, one that no longer offers good wages to ordinary workers. Wages used to rise along with worker productivity, but that linkage ended around 1980. The bottom third of the U.S. work force has seen little or no rise in inflation-adjusted wages since the early 1970s; the bottom third of male workers has experienced a sharp wage decline. This wage stagnation, not social decay, is the reason that poverty has proved so hard to eradicate.

Or to put it a different way, the problem of poverty has become part of the broader problem of rising income inequality, of an economy in which all the fruits of growth seem to go to a small elite, leaving everyone else behind.

So how should we respond to this reality?

The conservative position, essentially, is that we shouldn't respond. Conservatives are committed to the view that government is always the problem, never the solution; they treat

every beneficiary of a safety-net program as if he or she were "a Cadillac-driving welfare queen." And why not? After all, for decades their position was a political winner, because middle-class Americans saw "welfare" as something that Those People got but they didn't.

But that was then. At this point, the rise of the 1 percent at the expense of everyone else is so obvious that it's no longer possible to shut down any discussion of rising inequality with cries of "class warfare." Meanwhile, hard times have forced many more Americans to turn to safety-net programs. And as conservatives have responded by defining an ever-growing fraction of the population as morally unworthy "takers" - a quarter, a third, 47 percent, whatever - they have made themselves look callous and mean-spirited.

You can see the new political dynamics at work in the fight over aid to the unemployed. Republicans are still opposed to extended benefits, despite high long-term unemployment. But they have, revealingly, changed their arguments. Suddenly, it's not about forcing those lazy bums to find jobs; it's about fiscal responsibility. And nobody believes a word of it.

Meanwhile, progressives are on offense. They have decided that inequality is a winning political issue. They see war-on-poverty programs like food stamps, Medicaid and the earned-income tax credit as success stories, initiatives that have helped Americans in need - especially during the slump since 2007 - and should be expanded. And if these programs enroll a growing number of Americans, rather than being narrowly targeted on the poor, so what?

So guess what: On its 50th birthday, the war on poverty no longer looks like a failure. It looks, instead, like a template for a rising, increasingly confident progressive movement. □



## Hit The Slopes:

# Making a ski trip work when he skis, she doesn't

**SCOTT MAYEROWITZ**  
AP Business Writer

**ASPEN, Colo. (AP)** — This winter I put my relationship to the ultimate test: a romantic ski vacation. Many couples ski together, but my fiancée Sheri Askinazi is just learning while I've been skiing for more than two decades. We'd done group ski trips, but never skied alone.

To make this trip work, we needed some advance planning and clear expectations. I wanted to ski with Sheri but also desired time to speed down the harder trails.

We chose four days at Aspen/Snowmass in Colorado because it offered a little bit for each of us.

"I am a little nervous about the trip. It's a lot of time skiing," Sheri confessed to me a month before we left. When I mentioned that I had found ski buddies for a day, she asked: "A whole day?"

The conversation continued at dinner a few nights later. One of our friends flat-out said: "He has to ski with you. That's it."

We chatted through our desires and made a plan. Sheri would take two days of lessons. The first was at Snowmass. Elk Camp Meadows, a new beginner's area there, is fenced off from the rest of the resort so experts don't race through on their way to the lift. She quickly advanced to other parts of the mountain.

I took a refresher course — it's never too late to learn something new — and we met up for lunch.

The next day, she took a lesson at nearby Buttermilk Mountain. It's geared toward beginners but has some great intermediate trails that she mastered by the end of the day. I met up with some friends and got my adrenaline fix on the harder Aspen Mountain.

Lessons were key — it was much better for Sheri to get tips from a professional instead of me.

"Taking feedback from

someone you love can be the hardest thing. You start to personalize it," says Katie Ertl, who oversees the ski and snowboard schools at the four mountains of Aspen/Snowmass.

(Warning: Skiing isn't cheap. If purchased a week in advance, a four-day lift ticket costs \$396.

a lot and we were gliding down some intermediate runs together.

We might not have been skiing the steep runs I prefer, but Sheri pushed herself out of her comfort zone. And there, in the middle, we found a way to enjoy the mountain together.

There was one other thing

wood points a night.

Each morning, the hotel's ski valet would assist with our boots. Then, skis in hand, we had to walk just a few steps to the snow. There was no lugging of heavy gear and if we needed a midday break, it was easy to return to the hotel. (Another great slope-side op-

the industry has adapted. Resorts now offer better food choices and better ski schools, and they're even making it easier to park. Because women who grow up skiing sometimes exit the sport once they have kids, ski resorts are also adding day care and women-only clinics.

And to attract adults who have never skied before, they are trying bring-a-friend promotions. We tried one of those last season with some friends. Jiminy Peak in Massachusetts offered a learn-to-ski package: ski rentals, a lesson and a lift ticket to the beginner slopes. The women did that while the guys got free lift tickets to the entire mountain.

Parents with kids in the 10- to 13-year-old range may even be able to get their kids on the slopes for free. Some resorts offer free ski passes to kids in certain grades, and sometimes lessons are even thrown in, leaving parents free to ski on their own. In New Hampshire, for example, fourth and fifth graders can get free lift tickets, with discounts for lessons and gear rental, plus deals for siblings and parents. Many of these types of programs started during the past decade or so as a way to get kids and their families outdoors and exercising in the winter months, but they're a boon for the industry too: "We hook the kids into the sport early," Byrd says.

Ski resorts in southern states are even now starting to rent clothing to families who might not have gloves or snow pants.

For us, the ski trip ended with a couple's massage.

The Westin's spa abuts the hotel's heated outdoor pool and hot tubs. Nothing feels better after a day on the slopes than sitting in the whirlpool as snow falls on your head, followed by an hour of somebody removing the pain from your muscles. It was therapeutic, relaxing and — most importantly — something we could do together. □



**This December 2013 photo shows skiers amid the trees in Aspen, Colo. Planning a ski vacation for couples can be tricky if one person is an expert and the other a novice. Making plans to ski separately, especially if the beginner is taking lessons, as well as some together time on intermediate slopes, can make the vacation work smoothly.**

(AP Photo/Scott Mayerowitz)

Adult group lessons start at \$139; full-day private lessons start at \$660.)

For our final two days, we skied together at Snowmass. Sheri's instructor had ensured that I wouldn't drag her onto something too hard by noting the names of the trails on a map to try and the ones to avoid. She had learned

we did in planning to ease the experience: We picked a slope-side, ski-in, ski-out hotel.

Staying close to the mountain comes at a premium but makes life much easier. Nightly winter rates at the Westin Snowmass range from \$199 to \$599, or you can redeem — like we did — 12,000 to 16,000 Star-

tion is the Viceroy Snowmass, though it's pricey: Rates start at \$635 a night during the peak winter season.)

Sheri and I also benefited from a demographic challenge the ski industry faces: The most loyal — and free-spending — skiers are baby boomers. To attract younger skiers and others,